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1913

ANNUAL REPORT

Dependent
and Delinquent Children

ALBERTA

DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Printed by Direction of the
Honourable C. W. Cross, Attorney-General



R. B. Chadwick

EDMONTON

Superintendent

EDMONTON, February 18, 1914.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL OF ALBERTA,
Parliament Buildings.

Sir,—I beg to submit herewith the Fifth Annual Report of the work of this office, under *The Children's Protection Act of Alberta*, being for the year ending October 31, 1913.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. B. CHADWICK,
Superintendent.

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THE PROBLEM IN ALBERTA

In presenting the problem of the child in Alberta, there are a number of sections under which it should be reported; the first, naturally being that of the "Neglected Child" within the meaning of The Children's Protection Act of the Province.



It would be impossible in the space to which this report must be confined to go into detail cases, or to give the complete information which should be given in any of the various phases of the problem. Keeping in view the fact that the children of to-day are the citizens of to-morrow, it is evidently a sane business proposition to see that they are adequately protected and prevented from becoming vagabonds, criminals, or dependent on their fellow citizens.

If the problem of charity, criminality, and vagrancy is ever to be solved, the solution lies not so much in the punishment of these various classes, but in the prevention of conditions arising

which place these unfortunates into groups to which they are readily confined, through a process of economic conditions, or a desire to obtain by a short road, the wealth which they have not the moral stamina to acquire by constant endeavour and application. No one ever acquired in later years the necessary moral fibre to become a good citizen. This is only developed in childhood. If childhood is neglected, the State is bound to pay the penalty in dependents and criminal misfits, who seem to be Ishmaelites and find no place in the plan of society at large.

Neglected Child Defined

The following definition taken from The Children's Protection Act of Alberta, defines what a neglected child is within the meaning of the Act:

"'Neglected Child' shall mean a child who is found begging, receiving alms, thieving in a public place, sleeping at night in the open air, wandering about at late hours, associating or dwelling with a thief, drunkard or vagrant, or who is incorrigible, or cannot be controlled by its parents, or who is employed anywhere between the hours of ten o'clock p.m. of one day and six o'clock a.m. of the following day, (as amended by Paragraph 2, Section 23, Statutes of Alberta, 1910); or a child who by reason of the neglect, drunkenness, or other vice of its parents, is growing up without salutary parental control and education, or in circumstances exposing such a child to an idle and dissolute life; or who is found in a house of ill-fame, or known to associate with or to be in the company of a reputed prostitute; or who is an habitual vagrant, or an orphan and destitute; or deserted by its parents, or whose only parent is undergoing imprisonment for crime; or who by reason of ill-treatment, continual personal injury or grave

misconduct or habitual intemperance of its parents, or either of them is in peril of loss of life, health, or morality ; or in respect to whom its parents or only parent have or has been convicted of an offence against this Act, or under The Criminal Code, or whose home by reason of neglect, cruelty or depravity, is an unfit place for such child, and ' Neglected Children ' shall mean two or more of such children."

Greater Scope Needed for Children's Protection Acts

The one weak point in Children's Protection Acts throughout the civilized world is, that there is not enough latitude allowed to determine whether a child is actually neglected, or is the victim of temporary conditions of destitution through



force of circumstances surrounding a mother or family. In many instances, children have been made over as neglected children, and after detention in the shelter for some time, have been returned to the parents, who have through economic conditions been compelled to relinquish their children. A sudden turn in the tide of fortune, makes it possible for them to gather the home together again, and provide the children with proper housing and home influences.

It is necessary under all Children's Protection Acts, when children are made over, to have them made wards of the departments administering the Acts, and for this reason, the children can be returned to the parents only after a due process of applications, references, etc. Children of this kind should be merely detained for temporary shelter, but this scheme is usually regarded as being the thin edge of the wedge towards the " Mother's Pension Act," and on that score might be objected to. Great care should be used before the introduction of such an Act, as a great deal of abuse may result from bad handling. Possibly it would

be doing child protection a power of good, were it possible to make a per capita allowance for each child in the home of a widow with children depending upon her, for unstated periods until such time as the tide of hard times has swept by, and made it possible for the widowed mother to properly care for her children, but this action should only be taken after all the facts of the case have been gathered together and submitted to the Attorney-General.

Homes Held Together

The natural place for the protection of every child is its home, and in the event of failure on the part of the parents to provide the necessary moral influences and physical surroundings that would result

in good citizenship, it becomes the duty of the State to see that the child is given a chance to become the high grade citizen which is its inherent right. Every case dealt with through this Department is adjusted if possible. The child is protected, the home helped, and in many instances fathers have been induced to have themselves interdicted and work has been found for them, and in this way, homes, which if left to themselves would soon have been wrecked, have been saved to the State.

Dozens of instances of this kind have occurred during the last year. It is the bounden duty of the State to see that the child has a good chance, and if the parents do not give the child this right, then it becomes the duty of the State to see that the child is placed in a home where he will not only be well trained in the principles of citizenship, but also in a home where he will be well loved.



Unsanitary Home of Three Children, Tent Banked with Stable Refuse

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES

Children's Aid Societies are in existence at a large number of points in the Province of Alberta.

The work which the Children's Aid Societies have accomplished is beyond measure of estimation. A great number of men and women are interested in the problem of child saving, and the bettering of conditions surrounding childhood. The work of the Children's Aid Societies is primarily the problem of the child and the prevention of crime in their respective districts.

The preamble of the model constitution adopted throughout the Province of Alberta states as follows:

The objects of the society among others shall be:

First.—To protect children from cruelty, to care for and control neglected children, to provide foster homes for orphan or neglected children and in general to carry out the provisions of The



Children's Protection Act of Alberta.

Second.—To systematically agitate against all that tends to rob children of the right to grow up in an atmosphere of purity and moral cleanliness.

Third.—To prosecute persons who contribute to the delinquency of children.

Fourth.—To create a sentiment for the establishment of wholesome uplifting influences, such as small parks, play-grounds, gymnasiums, free baths, social centres and the like.

Fifth.—To establish a personal service corps so that individual attention may be given to children by interested men and women.

Sixth.—To maintain an educational campaign on subjects relating to child protection.

Seventh.—To supervise and promote legislation in connection with the object for which the society is founded.

Practically any one of good standing in the community, who expresses enough interest to pay the small amount of the fee and attend the meetings occasionally, may become a member of the Children's Aid Society. In some places in the Dominion, the Children's Aid Societies raise all the money needed for the support of the work in the district which they represent, through memberships and subscriptions alone. Alberta is in the position however, where, under The Children's

Protection Act, municipalities of 10,000 population or over are required by law to provide and maintain shelters, and appoint and pay agents.

During the past year, the work which has been enlarged to possibly a greater extent than any other branch of this work, has been that of dealing with the "Girl Problem," and Children's Aid Societies all over the Province have urged the necessity and advisability of having special women officers to deal with the girl in the cities, and in many instances they have gone beyond the sphere of constituted authority in this, and have urged the appointment of special police women and police matrons. To Edmonton belongs the satisfaction of having appointed the first woman probation officer with police powers in the person of Miss Annie Jackson, who for the past four years has been connected with this branch of the Attorney General's Department. The work which the various women probation officers have done in the matter of the prevention of crime, and their work among girls who have been picked up off the streets and removed from other pernicious influences, is beyond estimation.

A provincial probation officer has also been appointed to deal particularly with the problem of the girl in the country districts. A report of this officer is appended to this report. Increased work has also necessitated the appointment of an additional inspector to the staff.

Greater care has been used during the past year than ever before in the classification of children entering shelters, and results prove that investigation with extreme care, and a complete physical examination as a precautionary method has more than repaid the investment of both time and expense incurred.

Experience has proven that a large Children's Aid Society in a small place is a mistake, as the work is too limited to warrant the gathering together of a large number of people, and unless the people are vitally absorbed, their interest is liable to be diverted to other matters than child protection, consequently, in most of the smaller places, committees consisting of from three to ten individuals have been found most workable.

Local Children's Aid Societies have been encouraged to make their work as broad as possible, and to have their various societies become live factors in matters pertaining to childhood. The field has to be left an open one as long as they remain within the meaning of the Act, and lines defined by the constitution adopted. Volunteer effort of this kind can never be held down to too closely defined a line. The basic object of all work of this nature is preventive, and as long as the work which the Children's Aid Societies are doing is preventive, and deals with the prevention of crime, either by establishing playgrounds for children, by taking an interest in Juvenile Court work, dealing with the question of bringing to justice those who abuse or neglect a child, the establishing of better housing conditions for adults or the development of Industrial Farms, as long as these are the objects of Children's Aid Societies, they are doing a good work which cannot fail to raise the standard of citizenship in their respective communities. Alberta is to be congratulated on having men and women who are broad in their sympathies, and keen on the accomplishment of the objects which they have in view.

Children's Shelters

A by-law for a new shelter was passed in Calgary during the past year, but the bonds for this were not sold. It is anticipated however

that the coming season will see the Calgary shelter completed, and as Calgary is the first place in the Dominion to erect a shelter on the "Cottage Plan" with units taking care of the various classes of children, the development of this plan will be looked forward to with a great deal of interest all over the continent. It is hoped that the proper classification and isolation of the various groups will eliminate a great many of the difficulties and complications which cannot be averted in the "Congregate" type of institution. The cost of erection and management of the "Cottage" type of institution exceeds that of the "Congregate" type, but it is fully anticipated that the results will more than pay in returns that will accrue in the matter of proper classification, treatment, and the resultant corrections of physical defects and moral discrepancies.

Medicine Hat anticipates presenting a by-law for the erection of a children's shelter there, to the burgesses of that city during the coming year. The plans have already been prepared and the policy accepted by the city council, and it is anticipated that the year 1914 will see Medicine Hat equipped to deal with the problem of neglected and dependent children from the city and district.

The shelter in Lethbridge is in a poor location and not sufficiently large to meet the requirements. It is not anticipated that any extensions will be made during the present season unless a special opportunity presents itself. The grounds however will be improved, and a special effort made in outside work, and a woman officer appointed to deal with the girl problem of this municipality.

Lectures were delivered by the Superintendent of Neglected Children on the work of the prevention of crime and the protection of children in sixty-eight places during the year, and 15,000 miles covered by rail and 2,000 miles by trail in the interests of the work. During the year 468 dependent or neglected children have been dealt with, 383 applications for children have been received, 304 cases have come before the various Juvenile Courts and 146 children have been placed on probation. These various sections of the work are dealt with under their respective titles in this report.



THE HOUSING PROBLEM IN RELATION TO CHILD NEGLECT

The report of the Toronto Housing Commission resulted in the formation of a company in Ontario to introduce a special Act for the formation of a company with a million dollars capital, the object



of the company as cited in the Act, being :

"1. That a company, the main purpose of which is the building of dwelling houses to be rented at moderate rents, may petition the town or city council to guarantee its securities, thus enabling it to raise the money to carry out such purposes.

"2. If satisfied that such additional housing is urgently needed, and that the object of the company is not to make profit, but to be of *bona fide* help in supplying such need, the council may, with the assent of the ratepayers, pass a by-law authorizing the giving of such guarantee.

"3. The assent of the ratepayers is not necessary if the by-law is approved by the Provincial Board of Health.

"4. The council must approve the location of the land, the general plans of the houses, and the form and terms of the securities to be guaranteed.

"5. The total amount of securities guaranteed shall not exceed 85 per cent. of the total value of the lands and housing accomodation.

"6. The council has the right to appoint one member of the board of directors of the housing company.

"7. The books of the housing company shall at all times be open to inspection by the council.

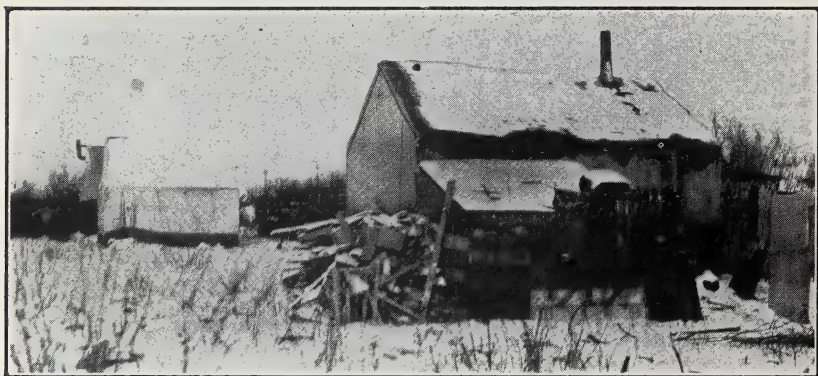
"8. No dividend upon the capital stock of the housing company shall be declared or paid in excess of six per cent. per annum. Such dividends shall be cumulative.

"9. Any net profits received by the company in any year, and not required to pay the 6 per cent. dividend referred to, may be expended in acquiring the capital stock of the company.

"10. After four years of operation the company shall, if requested by the city council guaranteeing its bonds, take steps by which the city itself shall acquire the stock of the company, paying therefor no greater premium than 10 per cent."

This bill was afterwards enacted by the *unanimous vote* of the Ontario Legislature.

Conditions which were brought out in this report, showed clearly that a great deal of tuberculosis, crime, pauperism, and child neglect, not only in Toronto, but in every other city on the continent, is directly due to bad housing and crowded conditions caused by people being compelled to economize on living space owing to exorbitant rents. This is bound to breed conditions of neglect, and life in an atmosphere of neglect and criminality soon results in a highly depreciated standard of citizenship. Unsanitary conditions are bound to exist, more particularly in the new countries, but there is no possible excuse for



the overcrowding that takes place in the larger communities of the Province of Alberta. In the majority of cases dealt with during the past four years by this Department, it has been found that the conditions would be gladly and quickly remedied, were the people in a financial position to do so. The enormous rent rate charged for accommodation is responsible in a large degree for overcrowding.

In one instance, in a cheap rooming house in the City of Edmonton, fifteen persons were found sleeping in bunks in one room 12 x 14 feet without windows or ventilation. Of this number four were children under 8 years of age, two were young girls aged respectively 14 and 16. The father of the family, it was found, owned the premises, and was overcrowding for the sake of monetary gain in order that he could return to his home in Austria at an early date, and become independent and live in idleness. The health and morals of the children were jeopardized, as in the same room were found sleeping three well known prostitutes. Conditions of this kind sooner or later come to the knowledge of the Health Officers, and where children are concerned are reported to this office promptly. The point is, that these conditions should not be allowed to exist, and if they do exist drastic measures should be taken to eliminate them.

In spite of every effort that can be made to remedy such conditions, sometimes cases get away from us, and children have been cooped up perhaps for many months, before the officers of this Department become cognizant of the case. The cheap rooming houses are the most frequent violators of sanitary and moral regulations as in many instances every inch of space is rented, and in some cases rented to the lowest type of individual.

Municipalities should be compelled to define on their permits to rooming houses, or places where individuals are boarded, the exact

amount of space each individual has to have for accommodation, and prevent them from renting rooms that are not adequately ventilated. Violation of regulations should entail cancellation of the permit by either a provincial or municipal officer. As long as cheap rooming houses are allowed to exist without regulations, so long is the problem of housing in relation to citizenship going to exist.

Immorality of the most flagrant kind is in existence in the majority of cheap rooming houses, either through ignorance or criminal intent on the part of the owners and proprietors. In many instances, young girls are encouraged to go to the cheapest class of rooming house with the distinct knowledge of the proprietor that these girls will become victims of the class to whom he is catering.



Chickens, Horses and Children, All in One Shack



All In Happy Homes

THE PROBLEM OF THE FOREIGN BORN

One of the great sources of difficulty in all Departments on the American Continent, which have for their object the protection of children, is the foreigner coming from conditions in other lands which

are entirely different to the conditions on the American Continent. The report of the Department of Immigration states that 311,084 persons immigrated into Canada during 1911, of this number 54,848 were children, showing an increase of 16,617 children over the previous year.



That Canada is now looked upon as a legitimate field for placing homeless children of other lands, is absolutely indisputable. Including the representatives of Great Britain, 64 nationalities, numberless languages, and practically every religion in the world is represented in the group of children who have come to Canada during the past year.

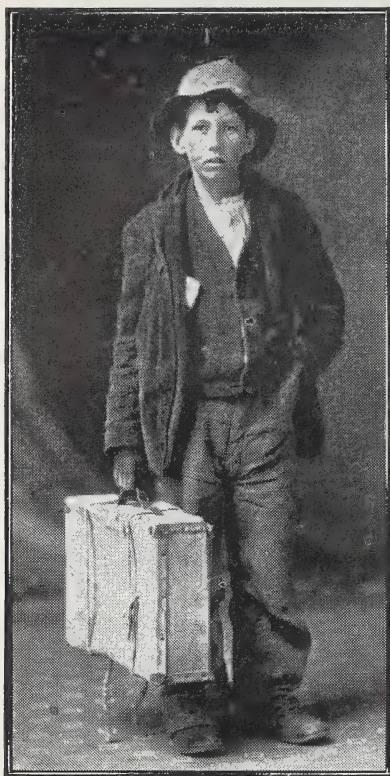
The question of absorbing these immigrants into the community and making them into good citizens is a serious one, and has to be confronted by everyone whether he is interested in the problem or not, as he has by paying taxes, to help in the support of the misfits and dependents of this class.

The greater number of English speaking immigrants adapt themselves very readily to their environment, and become loyal Canadians most readily. It is however a fact that the States of North Dakota and Montana have sent Alberta more cases of child neglect and of immoral young girls, than any other States. The problem of the foreign born child is a serious one, particularly in Western Canada, which has for the past few years been looked on as a legitimate field for home finding of this particular group.

Children, coming as they do from both home and national life which are entirely different to that of their adopted country, find some difficulty in adapting themselves to their new surroundings. Language, clothing, school system, money and business procedure are all entirely different. Lacking knowledge of the language, they readily fall into mistakes, violate the laws and commit many misdemeanours which bring them in touch with the Police or the Juvenile Court Officers, and their dealings in court are not satisfactory as the cases depend largely on interpreters.

The girls of this group particularly, drift into the lowest types of non-skilled work, and find employment largely in the cheaper class of restaurant and rough work about hotels. Their lack of knowledge of

the English language reduces their earning capacity as domestics. It is not always possible to find a mistress who is willing to give time and attention to train an uncouth European girl into an efficient maid.



The boys of the family are turned out on the streets to follow street trades either as news-vendors or the messenger service, and are exposed to conditions which are far from good for them. They become precocious, soon acquire a working knowledge of the language, and become the agents for transacting all the business between their parents and their English speaking neighbours.

If a child comes to this country at an early age, and his parents settle in a district where a school is established, the child is compelled to live up to the school laws of the country, and he becomes as a general rule a citizen of a satisfactory type. But for the children who drift into the city, there is a tendency on the part of the parents to regard them in the light of either "Old Age Pensions" or legitimate contributors to the income of the family.

Among the many cases dealt with by this Department last year, investigation brought out the

fact that practically all the children's earnings are gathered in by the parents, and consequently if left to themselves a great many young girls go wrong in order to provide the funds for their amusements, clothing, etc.

Among certain types of these people there is a stolid indifference to possible advancement, yet men coming to the country with their children, without funds, and with a lack of knowledge of the language and customs, have performed a large part of the pioneer work of the country. The majority of the stream of immigrants, particularly the children, are those of the lower classes of Great Britain and Europe, children picked up in the streets of the larger cities, shipped out to Canada and placed in homes by placing-out societies. Great care should be used in selecting these children, and societies having for their object the placing of children in foster homes in Alberta, should be compelled to enter into an agreement with the Provincial Government of Alberta, that a list of all the children they are sending out, be sent to the Superintendent of Neglected Children, giving the personal and family history as far as possible, the location of each child, and the name and address of the individual with whom they are to be placed. The cost of inspection should be defrayed by the Old Country Society, and in the event of the child showing signs of moral or physical degeneracy or mental depravity, they should be returned at the

expense of the society within four years from the time they arrived in Canada.

Unless some steps of this kind are taken in Alberta, the class that come are liable to be undesirable, as the officers in charge of the home sending children, have to plan to get rid of the most unmanageable of these children in the Old Land, in the hopes that the burden of caring for them will not rest on themselves or on their children.



The immense number of foreign born children in the community, do not offer at the time of their arrival particularly a problem of competition with their Canadian born associates in business and trade, aside from their competition in trades of the non-skilled class, and at the present time the majority of non-skilled trades are occupied by the

foreign born element. Proper care and attention to these children will, however, put them on a competitive plane, where they will not only rival, but in many instances pass the native born, owing to their rigid economy and desire to progress.

The foreign born boy can, if he wants to, become fully acquainted with conditions surrounding himself in Canada, and if he is at all ambitious, as he grows to manhood, can have a very definite idea as to which way he desires his life to be trained, and can become a vital factor in citizenship if he makes up his mind to do so.

The economic conditions under which many immigrant families live, necessitates strict economy. Overcrowding in dark rooms is common, one man leasing the property and subletting to other tenants and such homes become large rooming or boarding houses where privacy of any kind is denied. The results are ruinous to family life, and the boys and girls are exposed to conditions which undermine their moral characters, owing to the fact that little or no attention has been paid by either municipalities or philanthropic societies to the question of legitimate amusements. Dance halls in the poorer quarters are occupied largely by the girl from the home of the foreign born, the young boy is not admitted, and as a general rule he finds his amusements on the street or in the picture shows. Observation has brought out the fact that both the boys and girls of the foreign born are somewhat different to those of the Canadian born, as they are precocious as a general rule in sex matters and succumb more readily to immorality. Aside from this they are on an equal scale with their English speaking neighbors, their vocabulary of profanity possibly is more extensive owing to the fact that so much of the boy's life is spent on the street.

Special classes in public schools are absolutely essential in dealing with the foreign born child, social centres, instruction, and amusements have been excluded from their lives, with the result that these people do not get the training they have a right to.

An experiment was tried in Edmonton recently of conducting gymnasium classes for the various working girls of the city. This class has been filled with all the social grades from some of the best girls in the community to those of lower social scale. This has more

than paid in the development of a spirit of co-operation and co-ordination amongst the girls.

It is expected during the present year that at least one school will start as an experiment—a social centre for the young people of the community with the idea of co-ordinating the various elements that go to make up a cosmopolitan city.

The Y.M.C.A. of Edmonton carried on special classes for the foreign born young men in English correspondence and constructional work, with the result that 90 to 100 boys have been saved to Edmonton and are associating with better boys and becoming useful citizens.

The school plant in this connection, should be utilized not only during school hours but during the evenings for children and adults. Domestic science, household training for girls, technical training for boys, along the lines of their various aptitudes, health talks, gymnastic training, social evenings and explanations of citizenship and its responsibilities should be put on the programme. The modern school plant has all the necessary impedimenta for this work, and a broader use of

the school plant would result in saving hundreds of boys and girls, who otherwise are bound to drift into the ranks of the careless hand-to-mouth groups that fill so many of our modern cities.

The foreign born boy does not produce the problem on the farm that he is producing in ever increasing proportions in the cities. He is isolated, and has for his friends and neighbours boys of the same nationality and traditions as his own. They reproduce to some extent the environment of their native land, and regard as the greatest trial of their lives the time before they have reached the age required to file on a homestead.

It is most important if the child is to be saved to the community that these people be given a sane and rational idea of self-government and the responsibilities that citizenship carries with it. It is therefore essential that they should be encouraged to become good Canadian citizens, to become thoroughly acquainted with its possibilities, and love of country be developed in them, and in this way only will the problem of the foreign born as far as Canada is concerned be solved.

The difficulty of absorbing and holding tighter the variegated streams which are pouring in from all parts of the world, is a difficulty that it is everyone's business to help solve, as if the country is to be worth while to anyone it is necessary that each individual shall accept his responsibility in relation to the foreign born, and realize the fact that the foreign born is the coming Canadian citizen and his children



will probably be the dictators of policies and governments in future. If these people were educated, taught citizenship, and given a fair deal, the results would show in a higher standard of citizenship and manhood, and a decreasing cost of crime, pauperism, mental and moral deficiency.





The Pride of Foster Parents

THE GIRL

In a summary of evidence taken from about seven thousand social workers, and edited by the National Federation of Settlements, the impression is constantly made that for some years there has been a

gradual though appreciable tendency to lower the standard in moral tone among an enormous proportion of adolescent girls. Details of various cases cited, bring out very strongly the fact that it is utterly impossible to index specific causes as to reasons for girls' moral delinquencies. It is generally conceded, however, that the chief factors in creating the great moral laxity, are the breakdown of family and home life through the pressure of immigration. Lack of sympathy on the part of the parents, inability to meet social standards on their earning capacities, and greatest of all factors, the love of pleasure and examples set by girls who are higher up in the

social scale, and who, if they are not immoral, exude an atmosphere of immorality.

Another unfortunate fact brought out in this investigation is that the average social worker regards it as his or her experience, that the girl who once goes wrong finds it almost impossible to regain her self-respect in the community in which her moral delinquencies are known.

It is unfortunate that there seems to be a certain degree of admiration for men, for the success they have had with girls whom they have succeeded in placing on the list of immoral girls, and it is sometimes very difficult to secure information to bring these men to justice owing to fear of exposure on the part of the girl, and to the protection given these men by their friends, and also to the fact that they have the necessary funds to procure the best possible legal advice to defend them, in the event of there being enough evidence to bring them to trial at all.

Seeds of contamination of immorality are sown broadcast throughout the country. Restaurants, theatres and dance halls are filled full of immoral suggestions, and it is quite easy to understand a young girl being caught by the glitter and attractions of conditions surrounding such a life, and they readily mistake these conditions of tinsel for the average estimate of solid life, particularly if their early home training has not been of the strictest moral code, thoroughly and carefully defined.

The statement is made by Katharine Embert Davis, late superintendent of the New York State Reformatory for Women "that she has never had in her institution among the ranks of the prostitutes, a girl whose earlier home training had been of a high grade nature. The laxity of morality of girls and women with whom she has dealt, started in earlier childhood, and not in any instance in later life. The foundations of womanhood in the first place were weak, and they were ready to fall long before they ever had an opportunity."

The large number of young girls who have gone wrong in proportion to the population, more particularly in Western Canada, is indisputable by anyone. Young girls varying in ages from 12 to 16 years, can be found at all hours under the most pernicious influences of the street. Joy rides, restaurants, theatre parties, and dance halls seem to be the idea of amusement of this thoughtless class of girl.

Parents do not seem to be at all excited about the dangers to which the girls are exposed, and very seldom receive with thanks, any advice on the part of the woman officer to prevent the girls going wrong, and as a general rule these same parents are the first to turn the girl out, in the event of her being unfortunate enough to find herself in trouble. It is seldom possible to construe a home of this kind as an unfit home for the girl, and it is not always possible to have the parents condemned as contributing to the delinquency of the child.

The home conditions as far as the earning capacity of the father goes are usually fair, the surroundings fairly comfortable and healthy, and the family probably attend some church regularly. The girl is employed in some restaurant or store and allowed to have part, and in some cases all of her earnings for dress, and she feels somewhat independent in seeking her amusements when and where she will, and is not used to interference from her parents. She holds the whip hand at home, owing to her earning capacity, and is allowed to dictate to some extent as to the clothing and food for the rest of the family.

This condition is unfortunate, but not likely to be remedied, as it is not often that the home can be looked to to correct the difficulties which the State is confronting in dealing with the girl from the home of the average lower paid working classes.

Effect of Modern Economic Conditions

Modern business conditions are such that positions that were formerly occupied by men and boys, are now so largely occupied by girls and young women that in many instances the earning capacity of the girl or young woman is greater than that of her brothers. The girl is consequently a vital force in the family, and they are not in a position to dictate to her as to her amusements. The majority of girls coming from the average home of hard-working people, are used to taking care of themselves, and carry out pretty much as they will, their own way.

Girls who have their own homes have no possible excuse for street walking. The girls provided for in the Y. W. C. A., or in club boarding houses, as a general rule are of high moral tone, and usually give no difficulty to the officials on the question of delinquencies.

As a general rule, the girl who is recruited into the ranks of the professional prostitute, is compelled to seek her living away from her home surroundings altogether. She is compelled to room with other girls in conditions which are most unsanitary and unattractive, and she naturally looks outside of her room mates and working companions for her amusements. A great many of these girls are compelled through force of circumstances surrounding the home to contribute at least part of their earnings to the upkeep of the family, and as a result of this they look to the cheaper class of rooming and boarding houses for their home conditions, they look for the cheaper forms of amusement, and depend on chance acquaintanceships for pleasure. Girls of this class as a general rule give more difficulty than all the other groups put together. They have not yet joined the ranks of the

professional prostitutes, but as a general rule are clandestines, and become acquainted with the faster set of young men in the community, in many instances avoiding the young men of their own social set, as these boys are not in a financial position to give them the so-called good time they crave.

Advantages of Domestic Service

Unfortunately, the general run of girls of this class will not take advantage of domestic service. Many of these young girls have been induced to enter domestic service, and in all probability a large percentage of these have been saved to good citizenship. They however, prefer to work as waitresses in cheap restaurants, or even in the capacity of dish washer, in order that they may have their evenings free, that they may be able to enter or leave their rooms at their own discretion, bring in their own companions, and entertain whom they will.

During the past year over 600 cases of girls have been handled by various agencies of this Department. Of this number possibly 80 per cent. are living straight lives, and have been prevented from going further into a life of prostitution. Over 90 per cent. of all girls' crimes are sex crimes. This is accountable for owing to the fact that a girl who enters a life of crime is not compelled to steal, she usually follows the line of least resistance, and becomes first a clandestine, and later a professional prostitute unless prevented. The more complex life becomes, the more serious the problem will be.

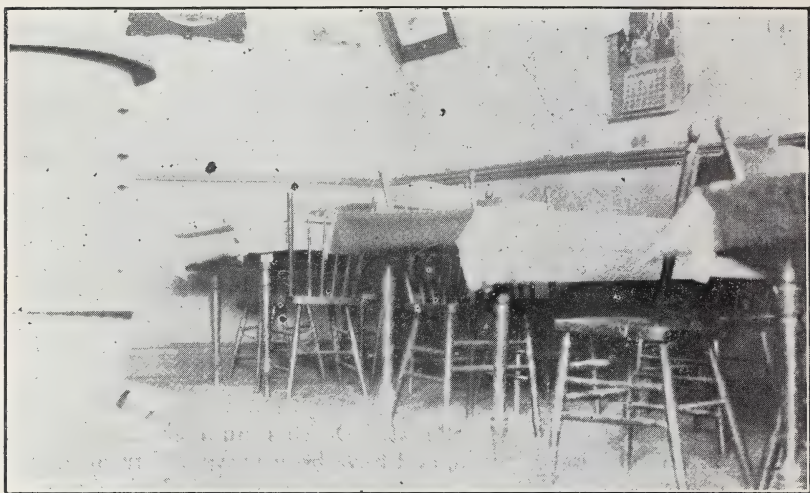
The Girl From the Country Home

It is evident to anyone who has gone into the matter thoroughly, that girls in the country or small towns have less chance of going wrong owing to community interest and the opinion of their neighbors, than the girls who are in the cities where no one is particularly interested in his next door neighbor, and everyone leads his life according to his own ideas. During the past five years, the smaller towns and country districts have been feeders to the cities. The wages offered in the cities have been a temptation to the girl brought up in the restrictions of the country and smaller places.

As a general rule a girl sees only the amount of her earnings, and does not take into consideration the amount necessary for her to pay out in order to secure board and room, and as she usually leaves home with the idea of sending something back from her earnings to her own people, she is bitterly disappointed to find that practically all her earning capacity is used up in taking care of herself. There is therefore a tendency from the economic side alone, for the girl to get into wrong habits resulting in her moral downfall, unless she is a young woman of exceptional character and makes herself acquainted with the advantages which every city has to offer in the way of Y.W.C.A.'s, the various Catholic organizations, or connects herself with some church organization.

As a general rule, the parents in the country and smaller towns do not realize the dangers to which they are exposing their daughters by allowing them to come to the city to make a living. Too much

importance cannot be laid on the necessity of sending the girl properly equipped in moral standards to help her along, and to overcome the difficulties which exist in the larger cities.



Chinese Restaurant. Six Girls Removed from This Place.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS

It has been necessary during the past three years to send some 30 or 40 girls to Industrial Schools. An arrangement was made with the Sisters of the Home of Refuge of the Good Shepherd, a branch of the mother society at Pittsburg, to care for certain girls. During the past three years, they have cared for a number of girls from this branch of the Attorney-General's Department. The work which they have been doing is beyond estimation, and they have succeeded in redeeming a great many girls to the community, who would otherwise be on the streets. This institution is handling more particularly the Catholic girls of the Province. Arrangements have also been made with Miss Gordon of the Social Service Home at Calgary, an institution under the Presbyterian church, to care for delinquent girls who need institutional care. The work which Miss Gordon has done is inestimable, as she has taken girl after girl who has been taken from places of ill repute, has moulded their lives, and made them into good women. The work which both these institutions are doing more than pays for itself.

In the case of the Sisters of the Home of Refuge, Protestant girls have been sent here, and the Home is open to be visited by ministers of any faith, that there may be no possibility of any girl making the complaint that she is not having religious training in her own faith. Statements that this condition has existed have been made, but a complete investigation has brought out the acknowledgement, even from the girls themselves who made the statement, that they were made in order that the girls might get out of the institution.

In the case of the Social Service Home at Calgary, any Catholic girls who have been dealt with there are sent to Catholic churches and their religious training is protected. An arrangement, however, is in existence at the present time to classify all girls according to their religion, the Sisters taking charge of the Catholic girls, and the Presbyterian Home in Calgary taking care of the Protestant girls. This arrangement seems to be satisfactory in every respect to those who objected to the former arrangement of mixed groups.

The percentage of absolute cures in these cases is most satisfactory, and the successes of Miss Gordon and the Sisters are very largely due to the fact that the girls dealt with are all of tender years, and young enough to catch the proper impressions made by an atmosphere of good will and common sense which pervades these institutions. The self-sacrificing efforts of the women in charge of these institutions are beyond possible estimation, the whole of their lives being dedicated to the unfortunate girls who come to their care. If it were possible to get the girl before it is considered necessary to place her in an institution at all, she would be saved from a great deal of suffering, and the Province would save both money and women. These conditions are not always possible, and the requirements for homes of this kind are bound to be constantly on the increase.

The care necessary in dealing with girls of this stamp must be unflinching, when it is remembered that about 40 per cent of the girls

sent to these institutions are suffering from venereal diseases in some form. Careful medical treatment is necessary, careful supervision of habits, clothing, etc., have to be given by the officials in order that others may not be contaminated, and the girls are put on the high road to usefulness in the community.

Prevention

The whole solution of the problem of the girl lies in the home, and without the care of the home, it is impossible ever to expect the high standard of citizenship among young girls so desirable in every community. Parents should be held absolutely responsible for their boys and girls, and should moral rectitude be allowed to fail, the parents should be considered as contributing to the delinquency of the child, and be made to pay for its keep either in a Home or Industrial School until such time as the child has reached the age of an earning capacity.

As long as young girls who are children in years, and should be romping in wholesome play, or amusing themselves in dressing their dolls, are permitted to wander the streets, pick up chance acquaintanceships, and whose mothers consider it smart on the part of their daughters in carrying on flirtations, and permit them to make the streets their place of amusement, so long are we going to have this problem to deal with. An interested observer can readily pick out at any time dozens of girls in our city running round at all hours, and picking up with the most doubtful companions.

The work of the probation officers throughout the Province in this connection has been really wonderful. It is estimated that in Edmonton alone, Miss Jackson has handled during the past year about 300 girls varying in ages from 11 to 18 years. Mrs. Bagnall of Calgary has handled over 150 cases of this kind, and in Lethbridge and Medicine Hat, large numbers have been dealt with, as well as in the smaller towns throughout the Province.

It is easily understandable that the investment of expense necessary to take care of the girl problem and in the employment of efficient officers, is very large, as it costs a great deal more to take care of a girl who has gone wrong than it does to take care of a boy who has gone wrong, as the girl, once she has stepped off her pedestal of morality as a general rule is considered as an outcast, although she may be only a child in years, but the boy is readily absorbed into the community, his sins are forgiven and he is allowed to have a fresh start. The women of the community are generally the hardest on the girls, and the very women who should be the most ready to assist are the first to condemn.

Girls are much harder to correct than boys, and it is essential that the officers dealing with this problem shall be women officers as a man cannot possibly deal with it. It has also been suggested that Women Commissioners sit on the girls' cases of the Juvenile Courts. The only difficulty confronting this is in finding a woman broad enough in sympathy, and who will not readily condemn the girl who has strayed from the path of virtue.

Particular attention is directed to the reports of Mrs. Bagnall of Calgary, and Miss Jackson of Edmonton. These reports give a detailed account of the work which the women officers have really been doing for the girls in the community.



Men of To-Morrow

THE BOY

The average boy gets into trouble because there is not much else provided for him to get into. The instinct for discovery is strong, and he readily falls into the habit of joining others who are just as anxious



as he is for discovery, and an exploration party is arranged to investigate the unknown fields which as a general rule lend opportunity for the teasing of neighbors or playing pranks on short-tempered individuals and making nuisances of themselves generally. Undirected energy seems to find in the average boy an outlet along the lines of mischief rather than along the lines of legitimate play; mischief, destruction and delinquency are generally wrongly expressed, and indirectly this energy which should be the foundation of citizenship, becomes instead a menace to society at large, and is disastrous in its results not

only upon the property of those who live within the radius of the operations of the gang, but upon the boys who participate.

It can be taken for granted that the large amount of work which this branch of the Attorney-General's Department has to do is done with the boy during his pre-adolescent and early adolescent periods, or before he reaches his seventeenth birthday. There is usually something seriously wrong with him and his case needs very special attention if he cannot be set right by a little supervision.

It must be remembered that the process of growing from a boy into a man is always a struggle between the boy's natural desires and the adults who are anxious that he should be moulded along certain channels. He follows as a general rule the instincts of the savage; these have come to him through generations, from prehistoric man. Through the influence of his home, the school, and in a number of instances because he desires to do so, he must lead a certain kind of polite life.

Dr. G. Stanley Hall estimates that the average boy of ten depends upon his instinct rather than upon his training to get him successfully out of difficulty or trouble that he gets into.

Animal spirits are strong and are present in all boys. If the lad is fortunate in a wholesome home environment, he, in all probability will come through safely. On the other hand, if his surroundings are bad he will naturally reflect these surroundings. Cautious guiding of the boy upon the paths of manhood will pay a hundred-fold. No boy, however, is willing to sacrifice his independence—he will not stand arbitrary dictation—he can be led but he cannot be successfully driven.

The most important fact that is frequently overlooked in reference to the boy, more particularly of the delinquent class with whom we have to deal, is that the nerve paths have not yet been directed into

their proper channels. It was discovered long ago that thought habits and nerve habits are the same thing, and if these are left undeveloped the result is bound to show in laxity of moral make-up. The object of all education should be development of well defined thought paths. The cortex of the brain catches and reacts to every nerve channel, and these should be well enough defined to guarantee an accurate and clear reaction in sensory activities. The difference between a good citizen and a criminal is the difference between clear and accurate reasoning and defective and inaccurate reasoning.

The boy usually causes a good deal of worry in the home, and this worry usually is based on the fact that home is not willing to meet the boy half-way. He is left to run wild until it is necessary for him to conform to regulations, and he is suddenly checked and supposed to conform to all the prescribed rules which may be laid down by the family, and the process of "breaking-in" is made unnecessarily harsh, with the result that rebelliousness on the part of the boy and absolute loss of control on the part of the parents is frequent. All boys' lives are full of contradictions, and it is only by continued effort that any boy can be brought to reasoning manhood. Boys are bound to make mistakes, and it is a good sign if he is successful in gradually overcoming them. Firmness and kindness in dealing with the boy problem does more towards building of citizenship than all the reformatories that have ever been built.

During the past year the City of Calgary introduced a play supervisor for the schools of that municipality, and he has done most excellent work in taking care of the children of their city in the matter of playgrounds and in the parks. Edmonton recently appointed Mr. G. R. Jackson, late of this branch of the Attorney-General's Department, as supervisor of the school playgrounds, and the work which Mr. Jackson has done in the organization of supervised play-grounds, rinks, and gymnasium classes for both boys and girls cannot be estimated in its value to citizenship. Alberta has not yet succeeded in establishing the boys' clubs that are a necessary part of the machinery of citizenship building. With the growth of the cities these things will naturally develop, and the results will be readily recognized.

The Boy and His Clubs

Organizations such as the Y.M.C.A., the Knights of Columbus, and other like organizations have been great factors in the providing of boys with the necessary element of the gang spirit under super-



vision. It is impossible however, to expect a great deal from any of these institutions until the work reaches the places where it touches the boy more closely, in the home. The general interest must be centered around family life in order that the boy may have the sympathy and co-operation of his parents and his brothers and sisters.

Crime Among Boys

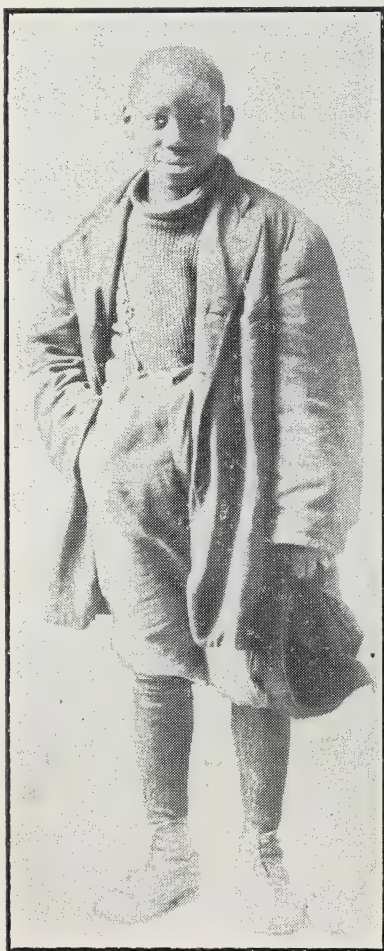
It will be noticed from the statistical reports that something over 450 cases were tried before the Juvenile Courts of the Province. This does not in any way give an idea of the number of cases of delinquents that have been dealt with in the various offices throughout the Province. In the majority of cases it is possible to get matters adjusted. The mischievous delinquencies of a boy should not be considered as criminal. As a general rule the intent on the part of the boy to do the right thing is present, and where the boy has been guilty of delinquency the basis of his delinquency is merely mischief. It is nearly always possible to get cases of this kind adjusted. Something over 900 cases

of this kind were adjusted during the past year, and it was not necessary to bring them into the Juvenile Court at all.

The most trying time of a boy's life is between the ages of twelve and fifteen years; he is explosive, emotional, and ready to respond to any impulse that may come to him. It is necessary however, that boys of this type should be carefully handled, as it is during this very trying period that it is usually determined as to what value his life will be to the community.

Dr. Leonard of the Mansfield Reformatory states that practically all the inmates of the Mansfield Reformatory were started on their careers of crime before their sixteenth birthday. Dr. Moore of the State Reformatory in New Jersey estimates the age at which most boys are started in crime as even younger. By the time that a boy is sixteen years of age, his moral habits are fairly well set, and the boy whose delinquencies take the form of either sex or more serious crimes at sixteen can be looked upon as nearly as hopeless a case as possible as

far as reformation is concerned, unless something most unusual comes in his life.



PROBATION AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

Probation

Probation has been used successfully in the majority of cases that were brought into the Juvenile Courts. With the introduction of The Juvenile Courts Act at the last session of the Provincial Legislature, the Dominion Delinquents Act may now be proclaimed in the Province of Alberta. Under The Juvenile Delinquents Act probation can be enforced:



Release On Probation

"In the case of a child proved to be a juvenile delinquent, the court may adjourn the hearing from time to time for any definite or indefinite period; and may impose a fine not exceeding ten dollars, or may commit the child to the care or custody of a probation officer or of any other suitable person; or may allow the child to remain in its home, subject to the visitation of a probation officer as often as may be required; or may cause the child to be placed in a suitable family

home as a foster home, subject to the friendly supervision of a probation officer and the further order of the court."

Those contributing to the delinquency of a child can be prosecuted and fined up to \$500 and imprisoned for one year.

Adults Liable Who Contribute to Delinquency

"Any person who knowingly or wilfully encourages, aids, causes, abets, or connives at the commission by a child of delinquency, or who knowingly or wilfully does any act producing, promoting or contributing to a child's being or becoming a juvenile delinquent, whether or not such person is the parent or guardian of the child, or who, being the parent or guardian of the child and being able to do so, wilfully neglects to do that which would directly tend to prevent a child's being or becoming a juvenile delinquent, or to remove the conditions which render a child a juvenile delinquent, shall be liable on summary conviction before a Juvenile Court or a justice, to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year, or to both fine and imprisonment."

Probation is the best method that has yet been discovered for the dealing of the problem of the boy, or dealing with crime in its incipient stages. "The Big Brother" system, which has been used throughout this Province in dealing with probationers has been successful.

The man who acts as the "Big Brother" must be very earnest in the work and give his whole mind to it, or else he will grow tired of the efforts and will permit the boy to escape him.

Probation, however, can be taken for granted as being successful in at least 95 per cent. of all cases that have been dealt with by probation officers, and the system should be extended to reach the case of every first offender in the case of younger boys, but the system should be made possibly a little stricter in the case of repeaters.

Industrial Schools

For some time past it has been necessary to send a number of boys to the Industrial School at Portage la Prairie. This institution under the direction of Mr. John Weir has done excellent work with the wards that have been sent there. Only boys who have shown direct criminal tendencies have been sent to this institution, and it is certainly to the credit of the school at Portage that it has been necessary to return in the case of Alberta, only one boy after his return from that institution during the four years, and the fault in this case was not in the boy, but in the family who were criminally neglectful of their parental duties in the home. The father had frequently been charged in the Police Court with crimes, at times of a serious nature.

If a boy is removed from the Industrial School before he has caught the ideas of discipline and the necessity of walking in the straight and narrow path, he in all probability is left to fall back into the old conditions. It is only advisable to send a boy away long enough to break old conditions and associations.

Industrial Schools are expensive institutions and the up-keep of such an institution would run into an enormous sum of money. The arrangement with the Province of Manitoba to handle the wards of the Province of Alberta who require industrial school training at Portage la Prairie, is very satisfactory, and if the arrangement could be continued it would be advisable to do so, for another few years at least till the Province is prepared to spend the enormous amount of money which will be necessary for the erection of an Industrial School in the Province. The difficulty that confronts the Province in dealing



with the question of industrial schools is, that in order to make it efficient the institution must be large, and in order to keep up the institution it is necessary to have it filled to capacity to avoid criticism. In order to meet this need there is a tendency to send children to the Industrial School, that, in all probability, could be better dealt with by the placing-out system.

The report of Mr. Weir, which follows in this report, will give an adequate idea of the work and the success of the methods used at Portage la Prairie as far as Alberta boys are concerned.

THE MENTAL DEFECTIVE

In every report that has been submitted by this branch of the Attorney-General's Department, reference has been made to the unfortunate class who are known as the mental defective. This class is more dangerous in a community than even a criminal class, because of the fact that mental deficiency once thoroughly established, taints the stream of heredity and goes on down through generation after generation, fluctuating in its strength.

Mendall's Law is now accepted by scientists as being authentic in the matter of heredity, particularly heredity pertaining to mental defectiveness, and it is almost impossible in the case of mental defectiveness once being established, to irradicate the defect throughout the stream which has been polluted.

The proportion of defectives to the population is unknown, as no records have yet been made in Canada based on investigation of the mental defective cases in jails and publicly supported institutions, but it is generally supposed however, that the results of experiments with the intelligence test which have been made in many of the institutions of the United States, of the pauper and dependent cases, can be taken as parallel to the conditions surrounding the average individual of this class in any place.

Dr. Goddard of Vineland, New Jersey, possibly the leading psychologist on the American Continent, makes the broad statement that at least 60 per cent. of all children confined in Industrial Schools and Institutions, are mental defectives, and Industrial Schools all over the world are gradually becoming institutions for the care of this unfortunate class. The natural sequence is that the reformatories, jails and penitentiaries are graded institutions caring for the wrecks of mental defectiveness in the way of misdemeanants, who find it impossible to adapt themselves to the conditions of life, and consequently fall out of the race and are confined in institutions, in many instances for the majority of their lives.

Testing of Mental Defectives

The Binot-Simon test of intelligence is now recognized as being the best test yet devised for the classification of these individuals. The test is based on experiments covering some 20 years, in schools and institutions in France and Germany, and gives a fairly accurate idea of mental deficiencies as contrasted with normal mental conditions in normal individuals. The test is very simple, and with very little effort could be used by school teachers who have been given the necessary training. Classification under the Binot-Simon system has possibly resulted in a great many children who have been looked on as backward and incorrigible, being properly taken care of and provided for.

Dr. Montessori, the great Italian educationalist, places special value on the Binot-Simon test of intelligence in classifying the various

grades of mental defectives. She is particularly interested in the education of this particular group, and states that children who have been educated along the lines of her teaching have been made capable of taking care of themselves in every respect except mentally. It is utterly impossible for a Mental Defective to ever become morally efficient, their ability to distinguish between right and wrong cannot be developed as something seems to be lacking in the mental make-up of these children.

The first menace that mental deficiency offers, is the tendency to immorality on the part of girls. It is an unfortunate fact that the mentally deficient woman or girl can always find a mate even among normal men. The story of the Kallikak family based on investigations which Dr. Goddard followed through New Jersey and following the travels of the family practically all over the United States and Canada, shows what an enormous cost a strain of mental deficiency may become to a community. The members of this family are now running into hundreds, and at least 75 per cent. are being cared for in State Institutions, and another 20 per cent. are looked on as dependents on charity all or part of the time. The remainder are being cared for by relatives who are in a position to provide for them.

The Mentally Defective Woman

The mentally deficient woman is liable to become the mother of more children than the normal woman, and her mental deficiency is passed on to her children. Even if the father of her children is mentally normal it will descend to at least three-fifths of the children: These are scientific facts and cannot be denied. A woman of this description might be considered as ordinarily queer or judged as a menace by her neighbors. Her children in all probability will be backward in school work, running along the way from complete idiocy to the Moron type of mental defective, and in all probability the girls of the family run to street walking and moral delinquency as soon as they are of an age to have an opportunity to follow street life.

In one case which came before this branch of the Attorney-General's Department during the past year, a woman in Alberta has had removed from her care three children who will always be a cost to the Province. These children are all mentally defective ranging from idiocy to imbecility. The mother is absolutely incapable of protecting them. The father is a mental defective dependent largely on charity, his whereabouts at the present time are unknown, he has in all probability joined the ranks of hobo type and is a parasite on some of the communities of the United States. The woman is the victim of any man who happens to come to her, she cannot be confined in an insane asylum as she is not dangerous to be at large, but she presents a danger to the community which is far greater than an insane individual, as she is more than likely to become the mother of more mentally deficient children who will have to be cared for for the remainder of their lives. These children will always be a cost, as they are absolutely incapable of absorbing teaching.

The Problem in Alberta

To the knowledge of this office at the present time there are from 150 to 200 mentally deficient children in the Province of Alberta, and almost daily enquiries reach this office from all sections of the

Province as to the possibilities of having these children sent to institutions. It is seemingly very difficult for these individuals and communities to understand why there is so much delay in acting on the applications, as in some instances the applications have been made as long as two years ago. All that can be done is to explain that the Province has made no provision for this unfortunate class, but to hold out the hope that at some future time this problem may be adjusted.

What the delay means is best recognized by those whose sons and daughters are being deprived of the only protection they can hope to have for the idiot and imbecile child growing to manhood and womanhood.

It has been suggested that special cottages be erected at the asylum at Ponoka, and special provision made for these unfortunates for at least temporary care. Our shelters are accomodating a constantly increasing number of these unfortunate children whom it is impossible to place in foster homes. There is no legal reason why the shelter should care for these children, and there is no reason why the shelter should be charged with detectives.

In the majority of cases, these children under proper institutional care can be made self-supporting. At Vineland, New Jersey, a large number of children are being trained to be productive elements. At Columbus, Ohio, an institution of this kind has been started for the care of the mentally defective and under proper supervision, is making a record by teaching its inmates to become productive.

These children should be taken care of individually, as with every year the problem increases as many of this class immigrate to this country, and children should be required to pass a proper mental test before they are admitted to the country, and an agreement should be entered into whereby they can be returned three or four years after they are admitted in the event of the location of mental defectiveness or retarded mental development, which brings them under the care of the state for the correction of mental defectiveness.



ILLEGITIMATES

During the past year 83 illegitimate children have been dealt with by this branch of the Attorney-General's Department.

As far as complete statistics can be obtained the percentage of illegitimate children born in Alberta is not larger in proportion to the population than any other place.

As stated in last year's report, it is well known that there are in existence a large number of so-called Maternity Homes which take cases at large fees, and the children are either given away without reporting to this office, or are allowed to be neglected and die. It is always impossible to secure information in these cases sufficient to convict. There is no more difficulty in placing an illegitimate child in a good foster home than there is in placing a legitimate child.

The amendments to the Criminal Code of Canada under section 242a are of inestimable value in dealing with such cases of both family desertion and cases of illegitimacy.

"242a. Every one is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of five hundred dollars, or to one year's imprisonment, or to both, who—

"(a) as a husband or head of a family, is under legal duty to provide necessaries for his wife or any child under sixteen years of age; or

"(b) as a parent or guardian, is under a legal duty to provide necessaries for any child under sixteen years of age;

"and who, if such wife or child is in destitute or necessitous circumstances, without lawful excuse, neglects or refuses to provide such necessaries.

"242b. Upon any prosecution under sections 242 or 242a, evidence that a man has cohabited with a woman or has in any way recognized her as being his wife shall be *prima facie* evidence that they are lawfully married, and evidence that a man has in any way recognized children as being his legitimate children shall be *prima facie* evidence that they are his legitimate children."

Since the introduction of the amendments to the Criminal Code, a large number of cases of this kind have been prosecuted in Alberta, and fathers of children have been compelled to meet the expenses which have been incurred both in the care of the mother, and in the care of the child at the shelter until such time as it can be placed in a foster home.

The Criminal Code however, might be further helped out by having a Provincial Act brought into force, whereby medical men attending cases of illegitimacy should be compelled to fill out a form to the Medical Officer of Health, giving particulars and history of the case attended. A copy of this should be forwarded to this office in order that the child can be protected, to prevent its being turned over to someone who would neglect the child's interests until such time as it dies or is required to be removed.

The work of such an institution as the Beulah Mission of Edmonton and others of a similar nature throughout the Province, have done

a good deal towards lessening the dangers confronting many infants who have been improperly disposed of. These institutions keep in close touch with this office, and notify us of practically all of the girls who come under their care, and we therefore have an opportunity to see that the infants are protected. It has been made a rule that no illegitimate children under three months of age shall be admitted to the shelters, as the mortality among young infants has been very large. The keeping together of mother and child has resulted in many instances in having the case adjusted. The father has been convinced of the advisability of marrying the mother and bringing the child up under proper conditions.

Alberta has been looked on as a place where young women in difficulties may come and have their children cared for in maternity homes and where they can leave their children behind. This must be discouraged. Maternity Homes should be under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health, and he should have the right to require an account of all cases. Such records should be available to the Superintendent of Neglected Children so that he may know the children who are available for foster children. Institutions caught disposing of children should be punished, and have their license cancelled for the first offence.

PHYSICAL DEFECTS

A great number of the children who have come under the care of this branch of the Attorney-General's Department are in poor physical condition, in many instances crippled, or so handicapped by physical deformity that it is impossible to place such children in foster homes.

Practically 90 per cent. of the children who come to us suffering from physical defects, have on examination been found to be in a position whereby the defect could be remedied by treatment or surgical operations.

During the past year special attention has been paid to this work, and many children who have been admitted, and whom it has been found impossible to place in foster homes owing to physical deformity, have been operated on, the defects corrected, and the children established in good foster homes as normal children. In this respect, the work of Dr. Deane of Calgary and Dr. Folinsbee of Edmonton cannot be too highly spoken of. Minor defects, such as nasal obstructions and adenoids, are always accepted on the list of usual defects surrounding the homes from which the neglected children are brought. In some instances, delicate brain operations have been carried out, to relieve pressure on the brain.

In one instance it was necessary to correct a physical defect consisting of simitus tibia bones in a child's legs, this being carried out by the removal of wedges of bones in each leg, the bones then being plated. This boy had been in the care of the Department for two years, and is now a normal child and ready to go to a foster home.

The cost is great at the start, but it is a sane business proposition to have these defects corrected, as the child is usually in such a physical condition that it is impossible to consider him as a candidate for a foster home, and he remains a charge on the community or on the government and his earning capacity is reduced and he is a charge for the rest of his life. Numerous other cases could be mentioned, notably the correction of club feet. Three of these cases have been attended to, also special treatment of diseased jaws, and the treatment of hereditary venereal diseases.

It has unfortunately been impossible to find any way to overcome blindness in the case of three children who have come to us suffering from Gonorrheal Ophthalmia. These children are helplessly blind, and will remain so. Every care has been taken of them however, and every effort made to protect them. Two of these children have been placed in foster homes, the parents undertaking to see that they are provided with proper education in a Blind Institution when they are of an age to require it. Too much emphasis cannot be placed on the correction of physical defects, and the surgeons who have given their time to these cases have charged only for their own actual expenditure in operation, and no charge has been made for their time or treatment.

FOSTER HOMES

Foster homes are required for a large number of children during the year. These homes are easier to find than is supposed. During the past year some four hundred and fifty two applications have been received for children, varying in ages from one week to seventeen years. The applications have not all been satisfactory. Something over forty per cent. of them have been turned down after investigation as unsatisfactory for some reason or other. In the majority of cases where applications were turned down it was because of some serious home defect, such as one of the parents being a drunkard, having a violent temper, or for immoral tendencies. In the case of children over twelve years of age a good many applications have been turned down for the reason that investigation has elicited the fact that the children are required in the capacity of general servants without pay.

It is comparatively easy to find foster homes for children under seven and over 12 years of age. In the first instance people want children to adopt as their own and are actuated by their love of children; in the second instance great care has to be used as the individual applying for a child is often desirous of securing the services of some boy or girl in the capacity of chore boy or domestic without wages.

Where children have an earning capacity their interests are guarded by insisting upon foster parents paying the wages agreed upon, either into the Department, where the money is banked in trust for the children, or into the nearest post office, and receipts of deposit are required to be sent to the Superintendent.

Applications Investigated

All applicants must back up their first applications with at least three references from reliable people. If the references are satisfactory a child is sent on trial, and at the end of thirty days if the child proves suitable, an agreement is entered into in which the foster parents contract to send the child to school and that it shall be treated as a member of the family, shall receive religious training, shall be furnished with clothing, washing, etc., and that they will provide for it in case of sickness, until the child is eighteen years of age.

After a child has been placed in a foster home it is regularly inspected at least twice a year, and school teachers' reports are required from time to time, in order that the Department may be satisfied that the child is receiving fair treatment in the home.

During the past year inspectors of the Department have covered about thirty-nine thousand seven hundred and twenty miles by rail, and four thousand and fifty-two miles by trail.

There is always a time in the history of every case when it is wise to relax and suspend supervision. This desirable end is reached when the child has been absorbed into the family as a member of it in every respect. Care must be used by inspectors in order that the

foster parents may not be offended, as an over officious inspector, by an indiscreet visitation of a home, can do more damage than can ever be undone. For this reason it is absolutely necessary to have men of sound sense and men with a knowledge of human nature in this very important end of the work. Against this there is the danger of releasing the home from supervision a little too soon. Every care is taken to be sure that the home is ready for release before this action is taken. It has been found that the careful selection of homes at the start has led to very little difficulty along this line.

The greatest care of the Department is in the initial report of the home. It should be possible, however, to have an inspector visit the home of every applicant before a child is placed, and make a full report to the Superintendent, of the conditions exactly as he sees them. It has been found from experience that where medical men have agreed to bring in a report on a home that the report is fuller and more comprehensive than the report of any other class of people, as these men are used to sizing up families and will usually give frank information as to the character and ability of the applicants.

The system used in Alberta is known as the "placing out" system and has been in use in various countries for the past forty years. There are many dangers attached to this system which have to be guarded against continually.

Those can be guarded against only by proper supervision and inspection of foster homes, and by a very careful scrutiny of not only the financial condition, but also the moral make-up of the applicants.

Some organizations have sent children to Canada in groups of from forty to one hundred. These children have been peddled out to anyone who would take them, without proper investigation of the home conditions or any follow-up system. The result has been disastrous for the children and is showing itself in popular feeling against the system as it has been abused. The right place for every child is with a good man and woman who will act in the capacity of father and mother to the child and see that it has an opportunity to become a good citizen. It is the supreme object of the Department of Neglected Children to give every child a fighting chance, and if a child



A Homestead With Good Prospects

is not happy in a foster home, that constitutes sufficient reasons for its removal, without other ground of complaint.

The Percentage of Success

The percentage of success that has been met with in Alberta has been large. That does not mean in any way that children do not have to be taken from homes in which they have been placed. Many children find it impossible to make good with certain types of individuals, consequently it has been necessary to re-handle about ten per cent. of the children dealt with. In one case a little girl of eight years of age was tried in seven different homes before she proved successful. In all of the six homes she was reported as unsatisfactory, being sullen, bad tempered and defiant. The seventh home happened to be the peculiar home which fitted the little girl and her foster parents report that she is happy and contented, and they are very proud of their little girl.

SAMPLE LETTERS

The following are a few extracts from letters which have been received by the Department, showing the success which has attended the placing out of children in foster homes :



"The oldest boy we took from the home three years ago next April, is now just a little past six, the other one will be five in January, and as young as they are they are the "Pride of the neighborhood." They both recite at the Literary every two weeks and speak so plainly that they can be heard all over the room.

"At our Sunday School picnic which was held not long since,— or—we call him, recited a piece of forty-eight lines which would have done credit to one much his senior. I am sending you a sample of his writing which was done last winter. They have not begun their school work yet this year, as the weather is still fine; it is our aim while they are young, to give them all the out-door life possible. They are never sick and are far ahead of the other children of their age in their little books, etc. I certainly wish you could see them, and note the improvement they

have made. We do not take the whole credit to ourselves, though much is due to the natural inclination of the child, and even more to their earlier training at the Home, they were there seven months.

"We often wish that there had been four of the same family but, since there were not, we may be able to find some substitutes and thus complete our little family circle. What we want now is another boy about twelve or fourteen years. Of course we would like him capable of the highest mental, spiritual and physical development for we want to educate him just the same as the others. In other words we want a good boy, one that is dependable and of good disposition. Our little boys never wrangle and are always so sweet and happy about everything. We want a little girl later, one that is of good parentage and musically inclined; we don't care if she is not more than eight years old, but that is in the future, we want to see how we "come out" with the "new boy" first.

"We cannot take him before spring, however, for the railroad running through our place will not carry passengers before that time. I think that you may send us the blanks, and it will give you more time to find what we want."

"I must apologize for my long neglect of the matter of the attached Agreement. It got mislaid, and a thorough search was not made for it until you wrote again.

"We are very pleased with the little girl and she is very happy, and it would be quite a wrench both to her and us to have to do without her now. Her health has been generally the very best, and she has been



treated in every way just as if she were our own child. She is of a very nice disposition and very intelligent, and very nice looking.

"Thanking you very much for the assistance you have been able to give us to arrive at the success we have in getting this little girl, and with best wishes to you in your good work."

"I am writing to thank you for the pretty little present which you sent to our little Pansy, she is well pleased with her little iron. Santa Claus surely has been real good to her, she received many pretty presents.

"She has been going to school here with another neighbor's little girl who was staying here with us to keep Pansy company up to two weeks to Christmas when the school closed. It is going to open

again round the 15th of February, when she will start again.

"She is getting to be a fine little girl. Will you please find out for me when her birthday is, as she doesn't know which month she was born in. Please do not forget.

"Have you a little boy of seven or eight years old for me yet? Please let me know if you have as soon as you can. If you haven't any just yet we will try and get one somewhere else as we want to get a child to go with her again.

"Will close with best wishes for a Happy Prosperous New Year from all."

"I remember we should report once or twice a year in regard to our little girl. Am glad to say she is healthy and strong, she loves her home and mamma and papa, she says she will never go back to the Hospital, she calls the home in Edmonton so. She felt at home the very first day she was here. She learns to pray to God to make her a good girl, and our aim and effort is to bring her up in the fear of the Lord. May God's blessing rest upon you and your work, is our prayer and wishes."

"Your parcel received, many thanks. Frank was quite delighted. He is growing a big boy and is quite bright and full of fun.

"He has learned to count up to 100, and is now learning his A. B. C.

"Wishing you a happy New Year."

"It is about six months since I last wrote you, so will write again.

"Our little girl is strong and healthy as ever, and is growing like a weed. As you know she was 6 years old on the 14th of last month. She is beginning to lose her baby teeth, having had four of them extracted and now has two new ones. She is getting large enough now to be quite a help doing little errands, and she is always willing to do all that she can to help us. And she is happy as a bird. One of our neighbors remarked the other day that he never saw a happier child. I dread for the time to come for her to learn the truth about her parentage for I know it will almost break her heart.

"We will send her to school a year from this spring, she will have a mile and a half to walk. I am sure that she will learn very fast at school for whatever we try to teach her she is very quick to learn."

"Our little girl is doing well, she has got 12 teeth, and we are both satisfied. In height she is just 2 feet 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches, very healthy. She weighs 25 pounds. That's about all, but before closing must say that she is very fond to be out of doors."

"We received the adoption papers for Nihay, and will sign them to-night. We are both well pleased with him and he is perfectly satisfied, only he talks of his little brother so much and I have



written to the Sec'y in Calgary in regard to him. If he is still there we have decided to take the two of them, and then they will be together, and not take a girl for a little while yet, and as to school, they haven't the one built yet that I spoke of, it seems they are having trouble in regard to the ground, and the nearest will be 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles and I don't think we can get him in there this winter, but I can learn him here at home this winter and start him as soon as the school is built.

"I want to do what is right by him, but that is the best we can do in regard to school this winter. In the adoption papers you do not say what day of July was his birthday. Can you let me know? As I would like to be able to tell him when he is older."

"I would like to get another little girl about 6 or 8 years old. The little one I took, Annie, is as near perfect as a child could be at her age. She had the measles two weeks after she came here, since, she has been perfectly well.

"We have two more foster children, boys, younger, two years and four years, fine chunks of boys. One more little girl will complete our family."

"I am afraid I am not writing to you as often as I should regarding my adopted daughter, (Irene). The fact is, we love Irene as our own child, and often forget that she is only adopted.

"We are at present (Irene and I) visiting in the East, and expect to



return home about the first week in March.

"I am very thankful to say that Irene enjoys perfect health, and is growing to be a fine looking little girl. Will send a photo of her in the near future."

"I guess it is nearly six months since I last wrote you. Bobbie and Rhoda are enjoying perfect health, they are both happy and at school every day. They both got promoted at Xmas. Rhoda is in the 2nd and Bobbie in the 4th book. Keeps me busy making and buying new clothes for them, they are growing so fast.

"Bobbie wore his first long pants on Sunday (they are warmer) and he thinks he is a man now. Bobbie is so jolly and good natured, he is a great favorite with old and young, but we have been able to keep him just as good as ever, he has no bad

habits that I know of, he does not use the simplest siang and has the best of manners.

"They are at Sunday school and church every Sunday.

"Enclosed you will find a copy of Bobbie and Rhoda. You have never seen Bobbie. He is much nicer looking when laughing, he has a very open smiling face and manner that wins everyone's love at once. I think if he still continues to be good he will be a great power for good some day."

"I promised to write you from time to time in regard to the progress of our little girl Ethel. There is really very little to say, except that she is attending school every day, is learning nicely and is healthy, which in my opinion is best of all. She is about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from school. When the weather is fine she goes alone, if not we take her. She is quite enthusiastic about school, and when at home is seldom found without a book in her hand. We have neglected having a picture taken for you, but we will try and do so, we only have one post-card picture of her now. But when school is closed we will try and have one taken for you."

"Just a few lines to let you know how our little girl is doing. She is very healthy, and is walking very well, she has twelve teeth and says most everything.

"Santa has just visited her (although a little early) and she is more than happy with the generous bundle of toys he left.

"Wishing your good work every success."

"I received a very pretty work box from an unknown friend, addressed to my adopted daughter Mary, bearing the Edmonton postmark, so I presume it must have been sent by you or your lady, for which please accept the sincere thanks of my wife and I.

"Little Mary is now at Calgary, visiting Mrs.—— sister, and

Teddy her adopted brother, is with her. We let both children visit their aunt and uncle. Mrs. ——— was always very anxious to see Mary, and only arrived from England last May. So we sent both children to enjoy their Christmas looking at the Santa Claus in some of Calgary's large stores.

"Mary is growing like a weed, she is the making of a very handsome child, and we are very fond of her. I requested her to call at the Home, and thank Mr. McDonald and other friends of the Home before she comes back.

"She has attended school fairly well during the last summer, but gets cold very easily as I don't think she is very robust, but I suppose it is on account of her growing so fast. She is very industrious and very fond of Sunday school, which she always tries to attend.

"When she comes home on Monday and sees her lovely work basket, she will certainly be delighted and I will ask her to write and thank you for it. She seems very fond of painting and drawing and writes a very neat hand, but sorry to say she is very backward in spelling and reading, although she is improving.

"Mrs. ——— joins me in wishing you and your lady the compliments of the season, and will always remember you as being the friend who presented us with a little girl whom we dearly love. Again thanking you for your kindness to Mary, and may God bless you and all the officers of the Home for the noble work you are doing for the benefit of the poor neglected children."



"It is now thirty days since I have taken Eva in my home. She is happy and content, I would not care to part with her now.

"Wishing you all a Happy New Year."

"I will try and write you again in regard to———. He is well and has been ever since we got him, except for colds. He is going to school now as much as the weather permits, and we hope to keep him in steady the rest of the term. We have not been able to keep him in Sunday school all winter as the weather was so cold they stopped it until spring opens up. Then church and Sunday

school will start again. He likes to go to church and Sunday school and is willing about going to school.

"I hope he learns so he can have a good education and I wouldn't part with him for the world, he seems just like my own child."

"As requested in our agreement to let you know how our baby is getting along. I must say she is growing splendidly, has got a lovely baby, and although she is only just thirteen months old she can almost



walk by herself. I am enclosing a snapshot taken of her in December last. Although the photo does not do her justice, you will be able to see she looks the picture of health and weighs over 23 lbs. Most of our neighbors told us when we brought her home that we should never rear her, but we are only too thankful to think she is so strong and healthy.

"Would you be kind enough to show Miss Yeomans the snapshot as I showed the baby to her at ——picnic. I think she will remember I told her she was adopted through the Home.

"Wishing the Home every success during the New Year."

"Will drop you a few lines to let you know our boy is doing fine, he had a cold but is alright again. He is the biggest boy for his age in this part of Alberta, he is the pride of our home.

"Have not had any pictures taken lately but in the Spring will have some taken and send you one."



The Best Kind of Home For Boys

OVERLAPPING

This question has been referred to in all the reports that have been presented to the Honourable the Attorney-General, since the inception of this branch of his Department.



In matters dealing with cases of destitution, the work of necessity at times overlaps that of the Medical Officer of Health, who administers the Charity Grant for the Province.

Friction of any description has been avoided owing to the courtesy which has been extended by Dr. Laidlaw and his assistants, but in many instances the question of responsibility has been wrongly placed, and many children have been charged against us as neglected children, when in reality they were merely cases of destitution requiring temporary care.

To the general public, it sometimes looks as if the cases were overlapping when part

of the family is dealt with by the Medical Officer of Health, and part by the officers of this branch of the Attorney-General's Department, in many instances, the officers of either Dr. Laidlaw's branch or this branch, have made one investigation to cover the whole family conditions. The children are taken care of in the shelters and the adults are provided for by Dr. Laidlaw.

Great care should be taken, in order that no possibility of a misunderstanding with the public should take place in reference to these two works.

THE NEED

The need of the Province of Alberta at the present time in the work of child-saving are first and foremost an institution for the care of mental defectives.

This unfortunate class is coming to the attention of all who are dealing with crime, either in its incipient or mature stages, or with the problem of social conditions in any way.

The situation is such that the matter is bound to be thrust on the attention of the Legislature of the Province in the very near future. There is need of a thorough investigation of the whole question of mental deficiency in order that the necessary machinery should be established for the scientific care and treatment of this unfortunate class. It would be an error to establish such an institution without first making the necessary investigations.

This is the most pressing need of the Province at the present time.

An Act should be introduced absolutely prohibiting the employment of children under 14 in any capacity, and guarding against the exploitation of children between the ages of 14 and 16. Provisions should be made for either compulsory education or useful employment for all children who have left school, and are between the ages of 14 and 16 years. Children between these ages, who neither have employment nor are they going to school, give more trouble than any other group, the fact that they are without restraint leads to a great many complications.

There is a tendency on the part of parents, owing to the large monetary returns of street trades, to allow their children to drift into the "Blind Alleys" of street trades, which yield large monetary returns, but block the child's future and develop a precociousness which is absolutely dangerous to the community.

The need for an Industrial school for girls is much in evidence. The agreement which is in existence with the Sisters of the Refuge of the Good Shepherd for the care of Catholic girls, and the Social Service Home at Calgary for the care of Protestant girls, is a good temporary arrangement, but information in reference to a school dealing with this particular problem, should be gathered together in order that the Government should be appraised of the requirements when the need becomes sufficiently pressing for the Government to establish an institution for the care of this group.

An Act should be introduced requiring mental tests to be used throughout all schools and institutions, in order that all children should be properly classified with the idea of determining as to whether or not the children are mentally normal. This important work should be handled by a psychologist and school teachers should be trained to use the Binot-Simon system of intelligence tests.

The question of an Industrial School for boys should also be carefully considered. The arrangement made with the Province of Manitoba for the care of the Alberta boys, is satisfactory at the present

time, but if a large Industrial School were established the tendency would be to incarcerate all delinquent boys.

The matter should be gone into carefully, in order that facts may be presented at the required time, showing the cost that the upkeep of such an institution would mean to the Province.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Superintendent of Neglected Children begs to acknowledge with thanks the courtesies of the many organizations throughout the Province which have offered help in dealing with the various problems of wayward boys and girls, in the communities wherein these children have lived.

To the many homes who have received as their own children, the homeless and destitute who have become wards of this Department.

To the Royal North-West Mounted Police in the Province, for their active co-operation and assistance in enforcing "The Children's Protection Act." Without the co-operation of this organization, it would be impossible to have accomplished anything like the work which has been done, with the amount of money at the disposal of this branch.

To the various municipal police forces of the Province, for their co-operation and assistance.

To the Social Service Home at Calgary, the Beulah Mission at Edmonton, the Lacombe Home at Midnapore, the Youville Convent at St. Albert, the Sisters of the Refuge of the Good Shepherd at Edmonton. These various institutions having received the caring for children, whom it would have been impossible to have dealt with outside of institutions.

To the medical men of the Province who have given freely of their time and skill in dealing with cases of sickness, and in remedying



The Start for the New Home

defects among the destitute children who have come to the notice of this Department

To the Commissioners who have been appointed under "The Children's Protection Act," to dispose of all cases of juvenile offenders or child neglect which may come before them.

These gentlemen have given their time gratuitously, and in every case they are men who have sacrificed time from large business interests to deal with the problem of the child in the community.

Too much praise cannot be given to the Commissioners for their valuable work in connection with the problems of the prevention of crime in the Province of Alberta.

To the various churches and organizations throughout the Province which have thrown open their meetings in order that the plea for better conditions for childhood might be presented before people who in many instances would never hear of the efforts being made on behalf of neglected children throughout the Province.

STATISTICS AND REPORTS

DEPENDENTS, 468

SEX OF DEPENDENTS

Male.....	213
Female	255
Number Dealt with	468

AGE OF DEPENDENTS

Under 1	79
1	22
2	23
3	25
4	14
5	27
6	26
7	32
8	16
9	26
10	22
11	29
12	21
13	20
14	23
15	25
16	38

RELIGION OF DEPENDENTS

Greek Orthodox	7
Church of England.....	124
Lutheran	39
Methodist	59
Protestant	54
Roman Catholic.....	90
Presbyterian	56
Moravian	2
Baptist	8
Salvation Army.....	8
Greek Catholic	10
Adventist	3
Quaker	1
Unknown	2
German Reform	1
Congregation.....	1
Hebrew	3

NATIONATITY OF DEPENDENTS

Unknown.....	1
Polish.....	5
Scotch.....	26
Canadian	173
English.....	87
Norwegian	1
Swede	11
German	34
Slav	3
French Canadian.....	6
American.....	27
Irish.....	13
Half breed.....	11
Austrian.....	11
Hungarian.....	1
Russian	22
Swiss.....	1
Negro	1
Greek	1
Ruthenian.....	2
Belgian.....	1
Scandinavian	2
Galician	9
Chinese.....	1
French.....	9
Italian	1
Finn.....	1
Jewish.....	1

PLACING OF DEPENDENTS

Adopted by foster parents.....	150
Ret'd to relatives under supervision	184
Placed in R.C. institution	9
Placed in Prot. Institution.....	10
Ran away	1
Placed at work.....	41
Placed with farmers.....	4
Died.....	21
In Shelter.....	44
Deported	4

DEPENDENTS—ELECTORAL DISTRICTS FROM

Wetaskiwin	7	Stoney Plain	1
Vegreville.....	5	Rocky Mountains	12
Edmonton	152	Coronation	2
Peace River	1	Ponoka	6
Lacombe	9	Outside Province.....	1
Lethbridge.....	16	Calgary.....	119
Macleod	12	Leduc	1
St. Albert.....	9	Whitford.....	2
Stettler.....	14	Red Deer.....	8
Pembina.....	6	Didsbury.....	1
Paddle River.....	1	Vermilion.....	2
Redcliffe.....	1	Alexandra.....	1
Medicine Hat	8	Cochrane.....	1
Olds.....	4	Hand Hills	1
Sturgeon.....	3	Innisfail	2
Victoria	9	Lac Ste. Anne	2
Wainwright	3	Sedgewick.....	3
Pincher Creek.....	2	Ontario.....	2
Taber.....	11	Nanton.....	1
Bow Valley.....	3	High River	3
Camrose.....	11	Edson.....	3
Little Bow	1		

DEPENDENTS, 376.

PLACED OUT IN ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

Lacombe.....	7	Cardston.....	2
Sturgeon.....	5	Calgary.....	86
Wainwright.....	6	Edmonton South.....	4
Stettler.....	7	Pembina.....	6
Didsbury.....	3	Wetaskiwin.....	7
Vermilion.....	3	Gleichen.....	1
Vegreville.....	4	Stony Plain.....	1
Hand Hills.....	3	Athabasca.....	1
Edmonton.....	124	Bow Valley.....	2
Olds.....	4	Macleod.....	6
Rocky Mountain.....	4	Ponoka.....	2
Alexandra.....	8	Claresholm.....	2
Camrose.....	9	Edson.....	1
Coronation.....	1	St. Albert.....	8
Red Deer.....	7	Nanton.....	1
High River.....	2	Lethbridge.....	8
Ribstone.....	3	Innisfail.....	3
Victoria.....	6	Sedgewick.....	2
Taber.....	9	Leduc.....	1
Okotoks.....	8	Little Bow.....	1
Medicine Hat.....	7	Cochrane.....	1

DELINQUENTS, 304

ELECTORAL DISTRICTS FROM

Calgary.....	125	Lacombe.....	3
Lethbridge.....	19	Medicine Hat.....	5
Edmonton.....	105	Grouard.....	1
Edmonton South.....	6	Outside Province.....	7
Taber.....	2	Macleod.....	2
Redcliffe.....	3	Leduc.....	2
Stettler.....	1	Rocky Mountain.....	2
St. Albert.....	5	Vermilion.....	2
Vegreville.....	4	Wetaskiwin.....	4
Innisfail.....	1	Lac Ste. Anne.....	1
Victoria.....	4		

DELINQUENTS

TOTAL NUMBER, 304

SEX OF DELINQUENTS		Salvation Army.....	
Male.....	250	Greek Catholic.....	4
Female.....	54	Jewish.....	9
AGES		Mormon.....	3
Seven.....	5	Protestant.....	14
Eight.....	6	Unknown.....	5
Nine.....	13	None.....	2
Ten.....	24	Buddhist.....	1
Eleven.....	31	Ruthenian.....	1
Twelve.....	44	Moravian.....	3
Thirteen.....	43	NATIONALITY OF DELINQUENTS	
Fourteen.....	36	Halfbreed.....	1
Fifteen.....	43	Unknown.....	1
Sixteen.....	47	Hollander.....	1
Seventeen.....	12	Canadian.....	107
RELIGION OF DELINQUENTS		African.....	1
Roman Catholic.....	63	Scotch.....	21
Church of England.....	56	Slav.....	7
Presbyterian.....	35	German.....	40
Methodist.....	49	American.....	22
Congregationalist.....	1	English.....	45
Lutheran.....	40	Galician.....	5
Baptist.....	14	French Canadian.....	8
		Austrian.....	2

Russian.....	18	Probation.....	61
Swiss.....	2	Work obtained for.....	21
French.....	2	Fined.....	6
Italian.....	3		
Finnlander.....	1		
Hebrew.....	8		
Swede.....	1		
Icelander.....	1		
Chinese.....	1		
Polish.....	2		
Irish.....	4		

HOME CONDITIONS

Good.....	47
Bad.....	63
Fair.....	187
Unknown.....	1
No home.....	6

PLACING OF DELINQUENTS

Returned to relatives under supervision.....	83
Reformatory.....	19
Farmers.....	8
Tradesmen.....	1
Roman Catholic Institution.....	6
Protestant Institution.....	5
Deported.....	3
Ran away.....	5

SENTENCED TO REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS

SEX

Male.....	13
Female.....	6

AGE

Eleven.....	1
Twelve.....	1
Thirteen.....	2
Fourteen.....	3
Fifteen.....	4
Sixteen.....	5
Seventeen.....	3

RELIGION

Church of England.....	2
Greek Catholic.....	1
Lutheran.....	1
Methodist.....	5
Presbyterian.....	4
Protestant.....	2
Roman Catholic.....	4

NATIONALITY

American.....	2
Canadian.....	9
English.....	2
Galician.....	2
German.....	2
Scotch.....	1
Russian.....	1

OFFENCE

Theft.....	8
Housebreaking.....	2
Vagrancy.....	1
Wilful damage.....	1
Immorality.....	5
Throwing railroad switch.....	2

SENTENCE

One year.....	2
Two years or under.....	4
Three years or under.....	7
Over three years.....	0
Indeterminate.....	6
Resentenced after parole.....	2



EDMONTON, ALTA., DECEMBER 31, 1913

MR. R. B. CHADWICK,
Superintendent of Neglected Children,
Edmonton, Alta.

SIR,—

I beg to submit Annual Report of work accomplished during the year ending October 31st, 1913, by Inspectors of this Department, as follows :

Number of Visits made	106
Cases investigated.....	147
Mileage covered, trail..	4052
Mileage covered, rail ..	39720

The number of cases investigated this year exceeds that of 1912, which might be attributed to the increased number of people coming into the province, and the fact that the work of this Department is becoming more widely known, with the result that more cases are being reported than heretofore.

With the increased number of investigations it has not been possible to visit all the foster homes we should have liked to visit, but the results of our inspections show that on the whole there is reason to believe that careful attention must be given to this branch of the work, and I would respectfully recommend that if possible during the coming year, more attention be paid to visiting children placed in foster homes. The necessity of this work can be readily understood, as in some cases children have been received mainly with the idea of exploiting them for the purpose of cheap labour.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed), A. R. BROOKE,
Inspector.



Part of an Inspector's Route

REPORT OF PROVINCIAL WOMAN PROBATION OFFICER

The problem of "the girl" still looms up as one of the important issues to be dealt with, looked after, and provided for in the rapidly growing population of the new Province of Alberta.

Keenly alive to the fact that upon good citizenship depends the whole future of the nation, its success or its downfall, the government has done much in its provision of a special department to deal with its delinquent and neglected unfortunates, in its appointment of special officials to deal particularly with the protection and safeguarding of the girls, the preservation of that morality which is probably the most vital element, the very foundation of any nation.

In October, 1912, the Honourable the Attorney-General, Mr. C. W. Cross, recognizing the special fitness of women in dealing with girls, provided for the appointment of a chief woman probation officer, to cover, in so far as possible, the provincial work. About the same time local probation officers were appointed both in Edmonton and Calgary, whose work during the year has been most efficient and of incomparable value in the uplift of the girl with whom they come in contact.

The work of the provincial and local officers differ greatly.

The local probation officer deals directly with the individual, she is intimately acquainted with the girl, knows the contingent circumstances which led to her adoption as a "ward of the department," her home environment, and her characteristics. She places the girl in what she considers the best environment for her proper development, uplift or regeneration, if necessary, then by constant watchfulness, attention, and influence, seeks to inculcate right principles and ideals in the girl herself, a desire to make the very most of the best that is in her.

The work of the chief Probation Officer is less with the individual, more with the public. Beside a general supervision or knowledge of the individual work gained through intercourse with the various local Probation Officers of the Province, whose interest in "their girls" is most absorbing and contagious, her duty is, to ascertain in so far as possible existing conditions for girls throughout the province, to learn the desirability and dangers of their various employments, what recreation is



Rooming House Condemned by Health Officer

provided for the hours not employed. It is hers to endeavour to interest the public generally, but women particularly, as "mothers and big sisters" all over the Province to lend their active assistance in doing everything possible to safeguard young girls, to give them the necessary education in the plan and functions of life, to shield them in times of temptation, to instruct them properly as to the dangers of life in the larger cities, to make provision for their recreation, and to do what they can to raise the standard of our future citizens.

From this viewpoint it is very gratifying to be able to report most encouraging progress. In the spring of 1913, at the request of the Department of Agriculture, and in company with one of their officials, many of the Women's institutes, chiefly in the southern part of the Province were visited, and the importance of the work with girls was impressed. By this means access was gained to the ranching, the mountain, and the outlying homesteading districts, and satisfactory results achieved.

In one instance meetings were held between sixty and seventy miles from the railway, and the audience gathered from as far as thirty-five miles distant.

In all during the year 12,570 miles have been covered, and numerous articles written in the interest of the work; forty different places have been visited, and sixty addresses have been given, resulting in very many cases in the desired interest and activity on the part of the hearers and a request for another visit or more information as to the aims and endeavours of the Government and the Department of Neglected Children.

In all cases where an appeal has been made, the people have been very warm in their desires to co-operate in any movement which would tend towards the health, happiness and well-being of our girls.

In Medicine Hat, active steps were taken towards the building of a Children's Shelter, the appointment of a local probation officer, and a flourishing girls' club, for the benefit of the employed, is now in existence. In Castor, High River, Coronation, Lloydminster, Vegreville, Vermillion, Ponoka and Stettler, these girls' clubs are either in existence, or in their inception, their aim being to raise the standard physically, mentally and morally, and provide for the social life of the many lonely hearts whose very loneliness so often leans to temptation and downfall.

In Edmonton, Calgary, Medicine Hat and Castor, physical culture, domestic science, sewing and art work under capable supervision, have been added to the social element of the clubs, thereby giving the girls an opportunity to broaden out educationally.

The matter of proper housing still presents one of the greatest difficulties. Girls at moderate wages are unable to pay the large price demanded by good and reputable boarding houses, and the Y.W.C.A.'s and Church Homes are already taxed to their capacity.

Plans have been discussed for the provision of a properly supervised cheaper boarding house where girls may have not only their bedrooms, but facilities for doing laundry work and sewing, and some room in which to entertain visiting friends.

An Industrial School for girls is perhaps one of our greatest needs, a school where girls who have gone wrong, or whose trend is in that direction simply because of bad home environment, lack of right education and training, may be given the necessary sympathy, care and education to fit them to secure an honest and decent livelihood as a result of their own efforts. A school where evil habits and tendencies may be eradicated, and right principles and ideals created and stimulated.

Some provision should speedily be made for the many girls who are mentally defective, and who become a dreaded menace to the coming race, a home where they can be employed, cared for, and kept from the weakness of their own natures and the exploitation of the unscrupulous.

Sanitary and moral conditions are to some extent improved in the larger places of employment of some of the leading cities, but there is a wide field for inspection and remedy in these lines.

The magnificent schools could be a great factor in the education and uplift of the community if broadened out beyond the hours of instruction for the young, into social centres to benefit and entertain all whom they could gather in. These schools are maintained by the people, and direct benefit should be derived by the people, and not only by the children of the Province.

Sincere thanks are tendered to the people of the Province generally,

whose hospitality, sympathy and interest have done so much to help and encourage our work ; to those who have so cheerfully, and without other remuneration than the satisfaction of having done so much to brighten young lives, assisted in the physical and other training and instruction of our girls' clubs ; to the school boards and principals who have so willingly given their co-operation and services, and to the press which has ever aided in the publication of various notices and articles bearing upon this particular work.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed), MARY YEOMANS,

Chief Woman Probation Officer.

GENERAL REPORT OF BOYS FROM THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, AS PER REQUEST OF R. B. CHADWICK, ESQ.

Industrial Training School,
Portage la Prairie, Man.

R. B. CHADWICK, Esq.
Edmonton, Alberta.

SIR,—I have the honour to report that the number of boys in this Institution, from the Province of Alberta on the 31st day of December, 1912, was 47
That there were admitted during the year 1913, New boys 14
That there were returned to the institution during the year, having failed to make good..... 3
Number of boys released on parole in 1913..... 24
Sent to Provincial Jail..... 1
Remaining in the Institution on 31st day of December, 1913 39

	64	64
Total number of boys in the Institution for the year 1913		16065

The boys for whom we have found employment in Manitoba, according to your wish, on account of the undesirable surroundings of their own homes, you will be glad to hear are doing well. That clever young blacksmith, Wallace——, is working in a blacksmith's shop in Portage la Prairie, and he boards with our Mr. Ballard, who was his instructor here. Mr. Ballard reports him as being very steady, he spends his evenings in the house with the family, reading or joining in the family amusements, and when Mr. Ballard (for the purpose of trying him) has asked him if he would not like to go up into the town, he always says he has no wish to do so. You will I think be surprised, but not less pleased to hear that another of your promising boys is Henry——. He was a little gay when he first came here, but when he realized that it did not pay, he, so to speak, found his feet, and settled down. He also is in the blacksmith's shop, and Mr. Ballard says he is an exceptionally clever boy at the business, and he is putting in his time in a manner that indicates a determination to learn the business.

Our new school is now open, and in addition to the class rooms, and concert hall, there is a well appointed gymnasium, fitted up with trapeze, vaulting horse, horizontal bar, parallel bars, climbing ropes, flying rings, indian clubs, etc., etc. Under a competent instructor, the boys enjoy themselves immensely and at the same time it helps them to develop into strong men. There is also a swimming bath in the basement, which will be ready for use in the near future.

Last year we formed a baseball league with the city teams and our boys, and our boys trimmed the intermediates in the six matches that were played, and some of our star players were Alberta boys.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) JOHN WEIR,
Superintendent.

REPORT OF THE AGENT OF THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY, CALGARY

R. B. CHADWICK, Esq.,
Superintendent of Neglected Children,
Edmonton, Alta.


Sir,

I beg to submit herewith report of the work of our society for the year ending October 31st, 1913.

Since the organization of our society in February 1909, the year in which the Children's Protection Act of Alberta was passed, its history

has been one of marked progress and expansion. The year just closed has been by far the most successful one in the history of the society. Mr. P. H. Tucker, after nearly a year of efficient service as Assistant Probation Officer, resigned his position about the end of January, 1913, and Mr. J. R. Royce was appointed in his place. Mr. Royce who has had a wide experience in relation to police work and the administration of the law, has proved himself to be a most capable officer, being prompt in the discharge of duty, as well as wisely tolerant and sympathetic.

With improved organization and equipment the society was better prepared than ever to carry out its aims and prosecute its saving work. Many little mites of humanity, neglected or deserted by unworthy parents, were cared for and protected. Many precious young lives overcome by temptation and wandering into the paths of sin were rescued by the society, and



Mr. W. G. Hunt
President Calgary Children's Aid Society

helped and guided into a better life. And yet as we look out on our throbbing city life and note the many temptations and agencies of evil which exist, and see so many promising youths setting their feet in perilous places, we realize the greatness of our work and how much there is yet to do. When we think of the number of homes in our midst where children are not receiving loving care and wise training, and note the results of this neglect, we are impressed with the magnitude of the problem before us. God intended life to be beautiful, healthful, free and abundant. This is the child's rightful heritage. If he is to enter into its enjoyment, then "the hearts of the people must turn towards the children," and we must not only remove as far as possible, temptations and hindrances, but also provide the means for healthful, physical and moral development.

It would probably surprise the average citizen to learn how early the

boy is enticed into places of doubtful resort and ways of sin. It would probably surprise him more to learn how early the girl is seduced away from a life of virtue. To check evil influences by providing wholesome environment, and by opening the mind of our youth to a new vision of life, thus giving to every boy and girl a chance of becoming a good citizen, is the task before us. It is no easy task. But the work is vital to the interests of the entire community, and if we are going to produce a generation of clean-living, God-fearing men and women, fitted for the duties and responsibilities of parentage and citizenship, then the problem must be faced and solved. The Children's Aid Society, in keeping with its high aims, is taking a hand in the solution of this tremendous problem, and earnestly invites the co-operation and support of all who are interested in the noble work of caring for the neglected, and safe-guarding the weak and the erring.

Juvenile Court

During the year 475 cases were dealt with in the Juvenile Court. Of these 326 were delinquency cases.

It will be noticed that during the last few months there has been a gratifying decrease in the number of juvenile delinquents appearing before the court. The promptness and efficiency of the court in dealing with delinquency cases, combined with the close supervision and employment of preventative measures by the officers of the Society, are evidently doing much towards the suppression of juvenile crime in the city. The breaking up of two or three organized gangs has also contributed to this encouraging result. Keeping in touch with the boys and girls who from time to time get into trouble or difficulties necessarily involves much time and effort, and the society feels very grateful for the help received from the Boy's Club of the Y.M.C.A., and from those who acted the part of "Big Brother" and "Big Sister" in a number of the cases dealt with. Of the 99 children placed on probation and required to report weekly until released, nearly all are doing well. In almost all cases where parents co-operate with us, the results are satisfactory.

Regular sessions of the court are held on Monday of every week in the office of the Secretary, City Hall. These sessions are presided over by at least one of the three Juvenile Court Commissioners, Dr. M. C. Costello, G. W. Morfitt, Esq., and Alderman Frost. These men are giving their services free, and are thus placing the city under a deep debt of gratitude to them.

Mention should be made here of the sympathy and valuable aid received from Miss Gordon of the Social Service Home and her devoted assistants, in relation to young girls who from time to time come under the protection of our society. Without the help received from Miss Gordon, it would not have been possible for us to have helped and saved so many girls. Miss Gordon was always ready to co-operate with our Probation Officer, Mrs. Bagnall, in this saving work, and the influence of her sympathy and personality upon the hearts and lives of these young girls has been simply wonderful. Many of them have come to love what is pure and good, and nearly all have been helped into a truer and better life.

The New Shelter

The matter of our new shelter was an item of absorbing interest for several months during the first part of the year. At a meeting of the society held on April 10th, it was unanimously decided after discussion, to recommend the "Cottage" system in preference to the "Congregate" plan. This recommendation was duly laid before the commissioners and approved. Then the matter of a suitable site was taken up. Some ten offers of sites in different parts of the city were received by the Site Committee. The committee visited the different sites, and after making a careful comparison as to location and price of each, decided to recommend to the commissioners a plot of ground at Harvetta Heights, containing some ten acres, and owned by Mr. F. D. Beveridge. This site was approved by the commissioners of the city, and purchased from Mr. Beveridge for \$20,000. A by-law for \$50,000 to meet the cost of site and buildings was submitted and passed. It is regretted that the city felt obliged to defer work on the new buildings until next spring.

The Old Shelter

The old maternity hospital adjoining the isolation hospital is still being used as a shelter, or temporary home, for our children. It is being utilized to the limit of its capacity. Occasionally it becomes necessary to secure temporary shelter in some outside home or institution.

The staff at the present time consists of a matron, a trained assistant nurse, night nurse, cook, housekeeper, and janitor.

Miss Jean Gordon, who was appointed Matron on September 16, resigned her position on the last of December, and Miss Russell took charge on January first. On her resignation on March 25, Miss E. Meikle was appointed in her place, and is still in charge.

On the whole, the health of the children has been good throughout the year, although there were several outbreaks of measles, diphtheria and other infectious diseases. The number of deaths throughout the year was six, nearly all infants. This is the highest death-rate we have had, but considering the number of children cared for, and the condition in which many little ones come to us, the record is not at all a bad one. Needless to say every care and attention as regards nursing and medical treatment was given these little ones, even in the cases where special treatment was necessary, and no hope of recovery could be entertained. Last year there were only two deaths at the shelter, and the year before not a single one, a most remarkable record.

In this connection, the society would make grateful mention of the faithful and efficient services rendered by Drs. Leacock & Windsor, Roach, McLaughlan, Birch, Spankie, Coleman and McNab; also of the kindly services rendered by Drs. Gunn and Hackney, Chambers, Milligan and Deane in a number of cases requiring special treatment.

Instruction of the Children

A most interesting and encouraging feature of our work at the shelter is the school conducted by Miss Parrott along kindergarten lines. Miss Parrott, who is very fond of children, and who is also gifted with the true teacher instinct, is deeply interested in her educational work among the little ones. She entered upon her duties as teacher on February 17, 1913. She reports that the average attendance was about 18. The society feels very grateful to the school board for the action taken to provide a course of instruction for the children at the shelter.

Cost of Maintenance

The cost of maintenance at the shelter was \$6,000.76 as per detailed statement herewith attached. The office expenses including salaries, transportation, postage, printing, stationery, etc., amount to \$1,767.01. The amount paid for the keep of Calgary children at the Edmonton Shelter was \$384.40, making a total of \$11,152.17. The total cost last year was \$8,048, at a cost per capita for the 317 cases dealt with of about \$26. The per capita cost this year on about 550 cases dealt with is a little less. It should be borne in mind that the cost of saving a child is about 5 per cent. of the cost of arresting and punishing a criminal. Obviously it is better as well as cheaper, to protect and educate the child than to punish and support the criminal.

SHELTER EXPENSES

Salaries and petty cash.....	\$ 2,425 80
Groceries and vegetables.....	683 10
Milk and cream.....	282 85
Water.....	36 60
Meat and fish.....	192 30
Laundry.....	92 65
Boots and shoes.....	56 35
Hardware.....	97 11
Fuel.....	549 50
Plumbing.....	24 40
Drugs.....	231 40
Furniture.....	129 83
Light.....	75 16

Bread.....	200 00
Clothing.....	195 12
Repairs, lumber, etc.....	192 79
Sundries.....	535 80
	<hr/>
	\$ 6,000 76

OFFICE EXPENSES

Salaries.....	\$ 4,154 00
Petty cash.....	400 06
Telephone.....	64 25
Printing and advertising.....	84 00
Stationery.....	64 70
	<hr/>
	\$ 4,767 01
Keep of Calgary Children at Edmonton Shelter.....	384 40
	<hr/>
Total cost.....	\$11,152 17

As an offset to this amount the Government contributed the sum of \$663.50 for the keep of children from outside points, the parents of such children cared for paid in \$731.37, membership fees, and donations amounted to \$467.20, and \$256.95 was raised on the sale of pencils, making a total of \$2,119.02 as per following statement :

Amount paid by parents.....	\$ 731 37
Amount paid by Government.....	663 50
Memberships, donations, etc.....	467 20
Sale of pencils.....	256 95

As giving some idea of the character and extent of the work of the society, it might be mentioned incidentally that during the year 1864 visits were made to the homes of probationers and other places under the supervision of the society, such as pool-rooms, theatres, restaurants, dance halls, etc., the value of such preventative and advisory work cannot be estimated in dollars and cents.

Newsboys

There were over 500 licenses issued to newsboys last year, as was to be expected there were some infractions of the license regulations, but on the whole the boys respected the law, and assisted us in dealing with offenders. Probably no better class of newsboys could be found anywhere than the newsboys of Calgary. It is safe to say, however, that there will not be quite so many licenses issued this coming year. Why? Because the street is a bad school for the boy, and often leads him into habits which tend to demoralize his life and disqualify him for the attainment of success. It may make him cunning, shrewd, crafty, but these are not qualities which have any high value when boys are wanted for positions of trust and responsibility. As a matter of fact, the business man is afraid to take chances, and often rules against the boy who has been too long on the street. Generally speaking it would be much better to take the boy off the street altogether, and put him in the way of learning a useful trade. Anything that unfits a boy for a life of steady plodding industry is really a handicap, and stands in the way of his future. The universal experience of those who have looked into this matter is, that newspaper selling is bad for the boy. Of course this does not apply to the boy, who while pursuing their studies, deliver papers morning and evening, nor to the boys who are forced to look to paper selling as a temporary relief or stepping stone to something better.

Child Labour

This is a subject which has been engaging a great deal of public attention of late. The School Law requiring attendance at school of all children up to their fourteenth year, is being well enforced. It is to be deplored, however, that there are so many boys and girls who leave school at that age, and do not take up any regular occupation, but accept any kind of work that offers as unskilled helpers. Many of these boys and

girls are the children of widows or deserted mothers, or of fathers who are drunken and indifferent. Would it not be a good thing to have some law or regulation in force which would compel boys who have passed the age limit of the school, to take up some definite trade or business, or go back to school?

As regards girls, there are strong physiological and other reasons why they should not be allowed to work in stores or other places until they had passed at least their sixteenth year.

Investigation of Causes

We are so busy in the rush of work, attending to the cases that come crowding upon us and demanding attention, that there is little time to think of remedying the social evils which are creating destitution and child neglect. But the time has surely come when we must deal intelligently with causes as well as with results. Some of the remedial lines that might be thought of in this connection are:

1. The providing of decent and sanitary homes for working classes.
2. Supervised play-grounds for children.
3. The suppression of the liquor trade.
4. The aiding of widowed or deserted mothers to care for and maintain their families without having to go out from the home to work.
5. The increased supervision of dance halls and pool-rooms.
6. Prevention of the employment of white girls and women in Chinese restaurants.
7. The establishment of a prison farm, where the victims of bad habits could have a chance of reformation, and also have a portion of their earnings turned over to the innocent ones dependent upon them.
8. The providing of a home for the care and protection of mental and moral defectives, many of whom are now becoming a public menace.

Acknowledgments

The society would not close its report without placing upon record its grateful appreciation of the city's generous aid and co-operation.

Special mention would also be made of the kindly aid given by the press, also of the sympathetic support and courtesies received from Police Magistrate Saunders, Chief Cuddy and the Police Department generally.

To the firms and private citizens who so generously contributed money, clothing, toys, etc., especially at the Christmas season; to the Churches and Sunday School scholars for the kindly remembrances; to Mr. McKillop of the Associated Charities for his aid and co-operation; to E. B. Curlette for photos of children; and to Shaver, Armstrong & McPherson for kindly favours, the thanks of the society are also gratefully tendered.

Membership

Annual subscription of \$1.00 constitutes membership. Honorary members may be elected in recognition of distinguished services to the society or to the cause of friendless children. Persons paying at any one time the sum of \$50.00 shall be eligible for life membership.

As we are dependent on contributions from those who love children for a considerable portion of the amount necessary for carrying on our work, donations of any amounts are always acceptable. Besides this, we are most anxious to increase and strengthen our membership.

(Signed), A. D. McDONALD,
Secretary and Agent

REPORT OF WOMAN PROBATION OFFICER FOR THE CITY OF CALGARY

MRS. EFFIE BAGNALL

I am the Woman Probation Officer for Calgary, and have occupied this position now for twelve months. The longer I am in the work, the more thoroughly I realize how much a woman can do for wayward young girls with whom we come in contact, they certainly need assistance and help from a woman. We find a way into their hearts, and in a short time they turn to and seek help from one of their own sex. We do not restrict ourselves to age by any means. A girl up to 17 years is the lawful age for our Department to look after, but we have ever so many cases over that age which I am only too glad to help in any way. Girls come to me with their sorrowful tales, and gladly I give them a hearing and help them in any way I can. Of course we have some cases which turn out disappointing, but we must look for that in every kind of work, and we have so many cases which turn out well, that it makes the work most encouraging.

During the year we have had 176 girls come to our office for help. Nine of these are at present in the Social Service House in charge of Deaconess Gordon. These girls I go to see as often as I can, and spend evenings in their company. In that way I feel that I get more into personal touch with them. These nine girls are girls whom we thought incapable of being placed at any work until they had some months of good training in mind and body. This training they get at this Home. Whenever I go there I am forcibly struck with the way the Home is conducted. The girls are taught school lessons, sewing, all kinds of domestic work. They are just like a big happy family. The staff at the home are splendid women, and the girls just fit into the life and love each one of the workers. They make the girls feel as if they are not outcasts, but girls fit to become good and noble women.

We started a gymnasium class about two months ago. This class is held at the Y.W.C.A. every Wednesday afternoon. We are indebted to Miss Glass, the Matron, for the use of the gymnasium and for instruction.

The girls whom we have placed at domestic work are all doing well. We make it a point to put them into good Christian homes, where the mistress will look after them and take a personal interest in them. Before placing a girl at a situation, I call and interview the people and find out if it is a right home for a girl to go to.

In nine cases out of ten, it is the fault of the parents that these girls come under our notice. When we investigate, we frequently find that strong drink is the cause of neglected homes and children going wrong. When these girls are brought to us we try to take the place of their parents, and if the girls are placed in a situation, the people for whom they work are expected to co-operate with us and to exercise wise control over them.

During the winter months we started a cooking class for girls under our supervision. This proved to be a great boon to the girls. They enjoyed these classes thoroughly, and picked up much useful information which will be of infinite value to them in after years. We attended these classes two nights in the week, and one night every week we met at the home of a member of our committee, Mrs. Arnold, and had sewing classes. The girls were taught to cut out and sew. This year I have a home of my own, and find it a great aid to me in my work. I can now ask any girl I wish to spend a quiet evening with me. In this way they feel we really want to make friends with them, and it is wonderful how they relax over a social cup of tea.

One of the most useful and practical things we do for these girls is in

helping them to do their shopping, and teaching them how to spend their money to the best advantage. We get special rates from some of the departmental stores here for girls under our supervision. A bank account has been opened for several of our girls, who are thus encouraged to save their money and to acquire habits of thrift and economy.

(Signed), EFFIE H. BAGNALL,
Probation Officer.

Edmonton, Alta., January 23rd, 1914.

MR. R. B. CHADWICK,

Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children,
Edmonton, Alta.

Sir,—

I beg to submit the following report of work done during the year 1913.

In the first place I handled and dealt with 721 cases during the year 1913 divided as follows: Thefts 80; Dependents 100; Breaking windows 40;

Truancy 12; Investigations 100; Inspections 72; Services 85; Warnings 90; Runaways caught 22; Delinquents 18; Trains met for children going and coming 92; Total 721.

During the year 1913 I find that the work of the Department has increased to about double what it was in 1912. The office work of this Department required more attention, as the work becomes so important and communication from outside points so urgent, regarding people making inquiries as to delinquents, and boys and girls running away from outside places and coming to this city. I required great care and energy in looking after the same. However, I may say that I got along well, and had a great deal of success in my labours.

I heartily thank the good staff in Mr. Chadwick's office for their assistance to me in my arduous work. Had it not been for their kindness in helping me out in my reports, I would have been unable to perform the work I did perform single-handed.

I had the pleasure during the year of visiting the towns of Owen Sound, South Hampton, Warton and the City of Toronto. In no place did I find the work so up-to-date as in the City of Edmonton

and Province of Alberta. When I was in Owen Sound, I was asked to give the Department there a synopsis of the work in Alberta and they wanted me to give a short discourse, but owing to the fact that my time was up I could not do so.

Generally speaking the problem of the child in the community of Edmonton is satisfactory, the laws are all enforced and the citizens generally ready and willing to co-operate in anything that means better protection for childhood. Playgrounds have been a great factor in this work, rinks and school grounds under Mr. G. R. Jackson have taken care of the energy that would otherwise be diverted towards mischief and destruction.

Miss Chatham of the Beulah Mission has done a great work for many of the unfortunate girls coming to my attention, and has been most kind in helping under all circumstances. Miss Jackson, the City Probation Officer, has handled hundreds of girls who would otherwise have been on the streets, and placed them in good positions under her direct supervision.

The system of handling cases in Juvenile Courts as used in Edmonton is most satisfactory, the commissioners dealing with the child rather than



Mr. John Blue
President Edmonton
Children's Aid Society

the crime, with the result that the parents must explain to the satisfaction of the Court, the reasons for neglect or crime when their children are charged.

The newsboys of the city have taken a great deal of time and attention, the city by-law on this matter is weak, and should be amended to permit only boys regularly attending school the privilege of street trades. Other boys can secure plenty of good work at good wages, and street life is always dangerous to the moral make-up of any boy.

Probation has been used most successfully, but like any other method based on leniency, has to be guarded carefully to prevent abuses from creeping in, boys failing to report have to be hunted up promptly if the system is to be made a success.

The Shelter Matron, Mrs. Bate, has been ready and willing at all times to go out of her way to assist my work in any way possible, and has handled the many difficult cases that we have taken to her, in a truly wonderful manner.

Many new things will come in the work of dealing with the child in the community, and these needs will be recognized gradually as the citizens gather more information and gradually come to understand that the dollar invested in prevention of crime by caring for the child, will later save hundreds that it will be necessary to spend in the punishment of crime.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed), R. DEALY,

Agent, Children's Aid Society.

REPORT OF THE MATRON OF THE CHILDREN'S SHELTER, EDMONTON

R. B. CHADWICK, Esq.,
Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children,
Edmonton, Alta.

Sir,—That the work of the Children's Shelter has grown during the past year, may be readily seen by the increased number of children dealt with over that of the previous year, there being a difference of 224.

Of two hundred new entries, 87 were of Russian parentage, for the greater part victims of bad home conditions, probably a class more largely to be dealt with as time goes on.

Much could be written of the "Russian Child in the Shelter," and it is pleasing to state that more can be said for, than against him.

The health of the children suffered through the summer months owing to an outbreak of measles and scarlet fever, and later whooping-cough. There were 38 cases and 5 deaths (infants under six months) due either directly or indirectly to these diseases. For the better health of the nursery, the city wisely provided a cow, and the infants are being nourished with the best of fresh milk.

Day school, in connection with shelter work continues, and Sunday school service conducted by the ladies of the W. C. T. U.

The children have had the usual outings, the managers of the different play-houses have been very generous with invitations to attend the picture shows, often putting on special attractions for them.

At the end of November, 1912, an out-patient department in connection with the charitable work of the shelter was opened. A clinic is held every Saturday morning and children from the different schools are, for a nominal fee, attended to. During the year 69 operations have been performed. This department is self-supporting.

No. of children dealt with during the year ending October, 1913.....	848
No. of new entries.....	274
No. of children from outside points.....	411
No. of children from city.....	437
No. of children admitted.....	411
No. of children discharged.....	413
No. of boys dealt with.....	445
No. of girls dealt with.....	403
No. of boys from outside points.....	213
No. of girls from outside points.....	198
No. of boys from city.....	232
No. of girls from city.....	143
No. of children released to parents.....	172
No. placed in homes or employed.....	121
No. children adopted.....	37
No. died.....	11
No. delinquent children.....	117
No. children sent to reformatory.....	8
No. children returned from foster homes.....	12

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION

Church of England.....	185
Methodist.....	148
Roman Catholic.....	147
Presbyterian.....	98
Lutheran.....	82
Baptist.....	29

Greek Catholic	23
Moravian	1
Unitarian	1
Jewish.....	5
Buddhist	1
Protestant or undenominational	128

Total 848

Respectfully submitted,
 (Sgd.) GEORGEA BATE,
 Matron, Children's Shelter.

REPORT OF CITY PROBATION OFFICER FOR THE CITY OF EDMONTON

MISS ANNIE M. JACKSON

During the past year some three hundred girls have come within the personal touch of this office in the Department, fifty of these being under constant watch and supervision at the present time.

The disposal of these girls has been no light task. The largest per cent. are placed in good homes as domestics, where homely influences and cheerful companionships help to accentuate right habits and right thinking. The average earning capacity of a girl under sixteen in a home is ten dollars per month, the more difficult cases being sometimes taken for very much less. The women who employ these girls have been most kind in helping us to study and remedy each case, and have used common sense and firmness in the clearing up of the difficulties which so often arise. The girls are comfortable and well cared for, and have more money to save or spend than if they worked elsewhere, and many a girl's problems would be lessened if she would accept this way of earning a living.

Though employment in stores or factories, candy shops, and laundries offers a girl less money, it gives her more time. The danger here is that without money to pay for amusements, and with more time to look for them, she will yield to the temptation of having her way paid by one who is not a proper companion. A girl in her teens is a nervous creature who needs plenty of fresh thought and new action or she grows restive even in the best of surroundings.

After eight hours of work in a closed place and a quickly prepared supper at night, there comes to a high-strung weary-bodied girl the craving for excitement; the desire that something should happen. Often the rooms in which she lives are too small for movement, and when the indomitable spirit of youth takes hold of her emotions, she becomes practically irresponsible.

The street is the highway of many an adventure, and the street is turned to once more with high hopes. While on the street, it is almost impossible for this girl to resist the idea that she is personally attractive. This often leads to boldness enough to form a street acquaintance, and picture shows, sight-seeing, joy-riding, and the cafe lunch—which might look safe enough in the beginning—lead frequently to the girl's own betrayal and regret.

In view of these things, the Department arranged for a series of gymnasium classes. Through the kindness of Mr. Carpenter, principal of the Victoria High School, we were allowed the privilege of using the High School's well-equipped gymnasium and shower baths. Under the instruction of Mr. G. R. Jackson, Supervisor of Playgrounds, the classes met for one hour twice a week during the winter months, and were open to all girls over 14 years of age, with special encouragement to those who did not attend school. Once a month a helpful nature talk was given, and a social time followed under the convention of the girls themselves. The classes were well attended, and the girls' appreciation of what was being done for them prompted us to believe that the scheme throughout was successful.

The managers of picture shows have been very generous in allowing passes to as many girls as we cared to take, even notifying us when there was a special run of good films. Different churches have also contributed to the girls' good time by sending tickets to concerts and musicales. Our chief idea is to make the girl independent in her amusements as well as in other things, and so these treats are given her as a pleasant surprise, and not as something to be expected.

A number of the department stores have given us shopping privileges such as credit slips, and a percentage on all goods purchased by the

probation officers for the girls under their care. The wages of the girl are handed over to us and she is taken with us when we buy her clothes, in order that she may learn the value of the goods she pays for. In many instances a girl finds it hard to live on her wages because she does not know how to buy the best things for the least money, and is usually behind in cash and in appearance.

Work in hotel kitchens and restaurants is close and steady. Where Chinamen and foreigners keep these places they offer the girl room and keep. Young girls who come in from the country, and particularly from foreign settlements, wishing to earn money to send back to the home-stand, accept work of this nature. Poor sleeping conditions, and private dining boxes engender immodesty, and whether they have been morally right or wrong, the worst of evil forces meet them here and soon their ruin is complete.

There are usually low dance halls and rooming houses in the neighborhood which are open to anyone who would enter, be they bent on mere pleasure or are irreclaimable prostitutes. To the foreign girl, poor in purse, ignorant in mind, unschooled in her emotions, and unconscious of the terrible consequences of evil, such places are filled with danger.

When a girl becomes seemingly incorrigible, she is committed to the care of the Sisters of the Home of the Refuge of the Good Shepherd. The Sisters use tact and cheerfulness and abounding patience in the reclamation of the girls. With school work, the embroidery frame, and domestic science, she is kept busy enough to help her forget her ways of vice. This school has done excellent work for the girls committed to its care, and is open to Protestants as well as Catholics. Ministers of all denominations are privileged to visit the girls and keep in touch with their progress.

Out of the fifteen girls committed to this institution in the past year, the larger per cent. are on their way to better things. Miss Gordon, of the social service home in Calgary, has also taken care of a number of cases for us, and has done excellent work for those entrusted to her care.

The work of this office is not so much a work of redemption as a work of prevention. Our aim is to take the girl under control and guard her from being lured into avenues of vice, to watch her closely and answer readily to any desire for friendliness that springs up in the girl's nature, and to feed her as far as possible on things wholesome and educative. The girl with the problem is her own greatest difficulty. Not having been taught to judge between right and wrong, she is morally colour blind. Not knowing black from white, and having no control but the control of desire, she follows willy-nilly where she wills, and questions even the will of Heaven to dictate to her a moral code. Even the girl from the country, who has a strong moral sense, at times loses it in the multi-colored scenes of city life. And so we take the girl as we find her, hopeless as she may seem, and trust that with kind treatment and moral stimulus, she may sometime win out.

(Signed) ANNIE M. JACKSON,

Probation Officer.



REPORT OF PROBATION OFFICER, LETHBRIDGE

MR. WILLIAM LAMB

R. B. CHADWICK, Esq.

Superintendent of Neglected Children,
Edmonton, Alta.

Sir,—In accordance with your request, I have the honor to submit to you herewith my report in connection with the children's department for the eleven months of 1913, ending November 30th.

The following are a few statistics in brief that will doubtless cover the matter to your satisfaction :



Mr. A. H. McKillop
Pres. Lethbridge Children's
Aid Society

No. of children admitted to	
Home	58
No. of children discharged	47
<hr/>	
In Home at present	11
Returned to parents or relatives	20
Sent to Foster Home.....	26
Sent to Asylum.....	1
<hr/>	
Total discharged from Home..	47
Boys found guilty of theft.....	10
Fighting on street.....	2
Having stolen property.....	1
Placed on Probation Cards	10
Allowed out on suspended sen-	
tence	7
Playing truant	10
Being out after curfew	10

There were 21 cases settled out of court, these being cases in connection with mischief, and damage to property, such as broken windows, etc., the damage was made good in each case.

Twenty-seven children were reported neglected, and were helped by the city authorities. In addition 60 children were given aid by way of boots and clothing. The Department has interested itself in many cases of elderly children outside of the inmates of the Home,

and has been successful in placing 8 of them out in suitable places of employment.

The upkeep of the Home for this year is marked by a substantial decrease, as shown by the following statement:

GENERAL EXPENSE ACCOUNT

General Expense as per		Cash remitted to City	
analysis book.....	\$4792.17	offices	\$1890.65
Allowance for probable		Sundry accounts outstand-	
bad debts to be charged		ing.....	627.85
to the City	438.90	Balance, net cost to City	
		to Nov. 30th, 1913.....	2712.57
		<hr/>	
	\$5231.07		\$5231.07

Trusting the foregoing will meet with your approval.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) W. LAMB,
Probation Officer.

REPORT OF PROBATION OFFICER, MEDICINE HAT

MR. L. V. MAIS

R. B. CHADWICK, ESQ.,

Superintendent of Neglected Children,
Edmonton, Alta.

Sir,—I enclose report of the probation work done at this point.

X The lack of a shelter has been very often felt and owing to this it has been necessary to get children put out temporarily in the city, until instructions had been received from

Edmonton as to the disposal of the little ones. In this work Captain Oakes of the Salvation Army has always helped most kindly, finding good homes even at the shortest notice. In other cases children were left in their homes although the surroundings were undesirable till after the investigation. Again some boys had to be kept in the cells at the Police Court till after their trial. Of course they did not associate with other prisoners, and were treated with all the consideration possible under the circumstances.

Quite a few of the cases were trivial, the culprits were very young, and the parents settled for damage done, and punished the children.

I have had several inquiries for children for adoption recently. More cases would be reported to me if I had a 'phone connection. Miss Yeoman's visit roused up a certain amount of interest in this work, but the local society should be more largely supported, and more meetings held with good speakers, so that the public would be more deeply interested in this most important work. It is quite

noticeable that more people are taking an interest in the upbringing of the children that in the past were allowed to grow up absolutely without care.

I am sure that there are lots of people here who would be only too glad to help in this work of caring for the children's welfare if only they could be shown what there is that they could do.

Mr. S. T. Hopper, Commissioner under The Children's Protection Act, has taken a great interest in the cases and very kindly allowed his office to be used when holding Juvenile Courts.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed), LESLIE V. MAIS,

Probation Officer.



Mr. C. J. Wilson,
President Medicine Hat Children's
Aid Society.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1913, MEDICINE HAT

R. B. CHADWICK, Esq.,
Edmonton, Alta.

Sir,—I beg to submit the following report on the work done here in Medicine Hat, during the current year.

All of August was a blank as I was recovering from a serious operation.

No. of calls and interviews. Over.....	500
No. of cases investigated	41
Charges laid.....	3
Convictions.....	3
No. of children sent to shelters.....	4
No. of children taken from parents.	15
Truancies.	34
No. cases reported from R.N.W.M.P.....	17
No. of Orders of Delivery to Children's Aid Society	16
Probations	5
Objectional postcards removed.....	1
Notices of investigations	12
Applications for children for adoption.....	4
Children placed in foster homes.....	11
Juvenile Court cases.....	12
Meetings attended.....	5
Weekly reports to Edmonton, Chief of Police, and Secretary Children's Aid Society.	

Yours faithfully,

(Signed), LESLIE V. MAIS,
Probation Officer.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY, TABER

The work of the children's department at Taber was opened up following the visit of the Superintendent in February of 1913. A Children's Aid Society was formed with John Truswell as Chairman, and the Rev. F. W. Mahaffy, C. G. Groff, T. E. Henderson, Don Malo and R. A. Van Orman as members.

The Rev. Mr. Mahaffy was appointed as the first Juvenile Commissioner, and owing to the fact that he was connected with similar work in Ontario, has given much valuable service to the department in the past year.

The society has dealt with several very urgent cases in the Taber District, and has found very satisfactory foster homes for a number of children.

(Sgd.) C. G. GROFF,
Secretary.



Lethbridge Shelter

